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REV. DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
January 2nd 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

December 31/38, I wrote you a letter in referenee to the appointment of the "general missionary."

You will recall that my plea was that the missionary on the Princeton use all his time and effort in Alaska Presbytery.

Yesterday the Commanding Officer of the Salvation Army in Alaska, Brigadier Carruthers, rode out to Wrangell Institute with me for a Union New Year's Service. As we rode along he told me of changes which are coming in the work of the Salvation Army in Alaska.

The Alaska Salvation Army work is to be transferred from Canadian to American administration. Their headquarters will be San Francisco. He, Brigadier Carruthers, has been given to understand that he will be included in the transfer, and he will have more time for visitation of the Alaska Corps. Heretofore he has had to spend part of his time in visiting Corps in northern British Columbia, and he has not been able to be in Alaska fields more than once a year. Now he expects to visit every field in Alaska about three times a year. Dr. Somerndike, when the Salvation Army officer comes to town, the community knows that a program will be put into effect. They let his program have prededence. That is what I have been trying to show Mr. Swanson. Swanson has had certain services, but not the program which the Army officer has put across. So many times I have wished that I could have a visit at least once a year and spend the week and a Sunday on some of the fields as N. M. chairman. But I cannot leave my Wrangell work when there are wolves ready to be active and no capable leader to carry on our program. With so many denominations trying to get a work going in Wrangell, we must be on the job all the while. The Salvation Army has three regular commissioned officers in Wrangell. Two of them visit other fields from time to time.

The new "general missionary" will need to have a home somewhere. Why not have his headquarters in Wrangell while I am N. M. chairman, and then make an arrangement for him to supply the Wrangell work once in a while so I could go out on the Princeton and visit fields where such a visit is desired. It will not be necessary for him to be on the Princeton, while another minister of our Presbytery is. This is just a suggestion with a thought of possibility appealing to you.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

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Box 275
Wrangell
January 12th 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

According to your letter of Dec 30/38 enclosing carbon of letter to Rev. Verne J. Swanson, you are about to commission him to Craig. The question has not been asked as to whether Craig wants the Swansons. I think that it is certain that Mr. and Mrs. Swanson wish to go to Craig, but it seems to me that it is about time for the inquiry at Craig as to their approval and willingness to do their part with the Swansons. I have not communicated with Craig because I thought you would wish to notify me when you were ready. I wonder whether one of the National Missions Committee members should make a special trip to Craig to call a congregational meeting.

Rev. S. G. Davis told me in a letter last week that the Hydaburg Church has failed to pay him the promised local support. I have written to each of the active elders and asked their prompt action. I expect to hear from them soon. Mr. Davis wrote that the tenant had not been able to pay the rent he had agreed to pay for the Manse. I wrote the tenant to pay Davis at once or write me what he intends to do.

I am not at all eager for a trip just at this time when there is so much to do here in Wrangell, but I wondered whether I should call Mr. Swanson to take me to Hydaburg and Craig for the above business. I think he could do it the week of Jan 30. We could leave Wrangell Tuesday night after my Institute Bible class and with favorable weather be back to Wrangell on Friday or Saturday. Then Swanson could go to Kasaan according to his schedule for Feb 5th.

Swanson told me that he wished to leave as soon as possible after the meeting of Presbytery for his assembly trip. You will recall that he is the one we expect will be elected to attend General Assembly this year. Of course he would not have to leave before about the 1st of May. He may be wishing to take some vacation or time off in that connection. Two questions come to me in connection with Swanson's time of leaving for Assembly. What date will he actually begin work at Craig. If he is to be gone a couple of months to Assembly, we cannot expect Craig to carry his salary during that time. The other question is as to the appointment of the boat man. Any man coming onto a boat like the Princeton should have 2 [redacted] weeks with the retiring operator because there are so many things Swanson has installed and the getting acquainted with the individual equipment. He should have at least 2 weeks. Should the helper be dropped the middle of March and the new man employed at that time? Or should Swanson be kept on the Princeton a week or so. If you wish to leave that matter with me, I'll try to work it out compatibly with Swanson.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska
January 16th 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike: MONTHLY NARRATIVE

As this narrative is forwarded we note in the Wrangell field that the spiritual outlook is bright and the financial is dark.

Christmas preparations found all our organizations eager to assist. The Women's Missionary Society, mostly Indian women, gave liberally of both time and money. They decorated and purchased fruit to give out at the Tree and in boxes for the Needy. The Ladies' Aid Society members purchased candy, nuts and oranges and gave much help in getting things ready. The Sunday School gave one of the best programs prepared in years. Around 250 were present and the congregation made an offering for Foreign Missions. The Sunday School classes made an offering of food for Christmas Day distribution to the Needy.

Christmas morning, 10:30 a.m., we were thankful to have a congregation of about 76. We were told that the Episcopal Church said it was of no use to attempt a service. Their worker and choir director attended our morning worship. Christmas afternoon, 1:30 p.m., we had worship at Wrangell Institute with a nice congregation of 140. We had only 22 out to the evening service. The day was full of activity, and overflowing with joy.

We began the New Year with a Watchnight Service and in the morning worship the administration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. During the week we participated in a week of prayer along with the other protestant churches, and the following week, Jan 9 to 13, had evangelistic meetings. We are gathering the fruit of that special effort. Five are enrolled in my class of coming to the communion. Two others are to be received on profession of faith. We expect Young People's Day to be a special witness with reception of new members. The spiritual attitude of our people is promising.

The community is facing a dark picture for the coming year. Business interests give us to understand that one of the three salmon canneries may operate in 1939, but there is no certainty of even that one canning fish this summer. The one industry at present is a shrimp cannery which employs some forty people. Last year's short season and low pay-roll is being felt by our church treasurer, but so far we have been able to meet the financial responsibilities. We are thankful that the decreased incomes have helped some people in the town to leave off the consumption of alcoholic liquors.

We have enjoyed a Christmas season of blessing and have entered the New Year with Hope and Good Cheer.

Sincerely, Russell F Robinson

Jan.
17th
1939

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

Let me set your mind at rest with reference to taking the Princeton out of Alaska Presbytery. I had no thought of that. If the general missionary who is appointed does any work in Yukon Presbytery, he will have to use the regular steamship lines. Of course his work for the first year or two will have to be in Alaska Presbytery alone. Our plan is for a general missionary to be of assistance to all the fields. He will be available for evangelistic meetings in the different fields, and he will have a special oversight of the fields in which there are native workers. He will cooperate with the pastors of all the churches in developing such features of their local programs as may be in need of outside assistance such as giving a stimulus to young people's work, leadership training, promoting family religion, church financial plans, and any other types of work where his services may be needed.

It is my understanding that this is what you and other workers in Alaska have had in mind in asking for the appointment of a general missionary. You will remember that the request originated not with me but with you men on the field. It has come to me directly from you and other missionaries, and it has also come to me directly through summer tourists who contacted our missionaries in visiting Alaska and to whom the missionaries have spoken regarding the need of a man who would tour around among the churches. He will do exactly what you would like to do as National Missions Chairman. I do not think that it would be advisable for him to reside in Wrangell in order to take care of your work while you visit the fields as National Missions Chairman. It will be better for him to do the visiting and make his reports to you as Chairman of the Committee.

Mr. Christiansen's trip to the States was made as a personal vacation. I told him that he could have only three months for a vacation and that if he took any additional time it would be at his own expense. However, when our Promotion Department learned that he was going to be in the States, they asked him whether he would be willing to itinerate among some of our churches here and speak on our Alaska work besides showing some of his pictures. He agreed to do this so the time of his vacation was extended and his salary was paid the same as though

he was on his field. Mr. Christiansen did not take this vacation as a furlough, nor did we pay George Beck anything for supplying his pulpit during his absence. If Mr. Beck received anything, it was given to him by Mr. Christiansen. The Promotion Department of the Board of course has the right to bring anyone from the field at any time to itinerate among our churches in the States for the purpose of stimulating interest in the work.

If Mr. Swanson goes to Craig he will receive $1320 from the Board and will depend upon the Craig church for the balance of his salary ($180). We will not advance the entire amount.

With reference to the native work at Douglas, I am writing Mr. Waggoner that since the Methodists do not seem to be doing anything in behalf of the natives and since we seem to have prior right in this matter it would be best for him to continue the program that he has been conducting in the Douglas field.

Regarding the situation at Hydaburg, I will frankly say that I cannot make any forecast as to whether we shall be able to provide the full salary of a missionary for that field next Fall. It will depend upon the total amount available for our Alaska work next year.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

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Box 275
Wrangell
January 17th 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find the following received from Mr. Swanson:

Expense Voucher--Princeton Maintenance . . $51.45 ✓
I have not seen him to request that he have the bills made out so you can tell what the expense items are.

Expense Voucher--Kake Manse $10.00
You may recall that Layworker George Betts included in his letter that Mr. Swanson had taken the bills covering water connection of Kake Manse.

Voucher for Boat helper, Eugene E.Bromley,Jr $60.00 ✓
Petersburg Manse rent for January $30.00 ✓
Mr. Swanson's check for ~~$45~~ $45.00 covering rental of October, November & December $45.00
of part of Petersburg Manse.

Monthly report enclosing check for contributions received from Angoon $1.25
Petersburg Church $10.
Hirst-Chichagof $8.25
Chichagof 1.95
Total $21.45 ✓

Copy of letter Mr. Swanson sent to Miss Hayes submitted as a monthly narrative. ✓

You may note that Mr. Swanson made considerable more contacts this past month than usual. Rev. A. D. Swogger made the request that the Princeton add to her schedule the trip to Haines to carry the two children and gather up offerings of the missionary societies. With my suggestion that Mr. Swogger's request be carried out, he added some attractive work.

Mr. Swanson seems to be doing more of the kind of work you desired of the Princeton operator. We are thankful for his good report.

Sincerely,

Russell F Pederson

Jan.
20th
1939

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I think it would be a good plan for you to contact the Craig congregation by making a special trip to Craig if necessary to ascertain whether they are willing to accept the services of Mr. Swanson. It is very important, of course, to know whether they are willing to take him. If not, I do not know where I would find any other opening for him.

It will be all right for you to call the Princeton to take you to Craig and also to Hydaburg to remind the latter congregation of their responsibility to pay the salary of Sam Davis.

I am glad that you reminded me about the possibility of Mr. Swanson being sent as a commissioner to the General Assembly. Of course, if he comes to the Assembly he will be leaving Alaska about the first of May. There does not seem to be any reason why he should leave before that time. He has had so many vacations and leaves of absence that I do not think he should take any more time than is actually necessary to attend the sessions of the General Assembly. We would not expect the Craig congregation to pay him during the time that he is off the field. If he expects to return by July 1st, their proportion of his salary can begin at that time. As a matter of fact, I think it would be better if we would allow Swanson to remain as the boat missionary until July 1st and make the transfer as of that date. It is hardly likely that we shall be able to get any other man to undertake the operation of the boat before that time. That is to say, I do not think that the general missionary whom we are planning to appoint would be able to begin before July 1st, and I do not want Mr. Falconer - whom we are planning to appoint as the operator of the boat - to begin his work as operator of the boat until the general missionary is appointed, unless as you suggest he should give a couple of weeks of time with Swanson before he assumes the full responsibility. I think that can be arranged after Swanson returns from the General Assembly.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

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Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska
January 20th 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

The following telegram was received this morning, and is forwarded for your consideration:

APRIL OF LAST YEAR AT MEETING OF PRESBYTERY IT WAS DECIDED THAT KLUCKWAN BE GIVEN A LAYWORKER AND A NEW HEATER FOR OUR CHURCH STOP KINDLY NOTIFY IMMEDIATELY CAUSE OF DELAY STOP PRESENT ELDERS HAVE BEEN SUBSTITUTING FOR LAYWORKER PAST FOUR MONTHS DOING ALL CHURCH AND CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORK STOP WE ELDERS AND MEMBERS OF CHURCH RECOMMEND MRS BESSIE JIMMIE FOR LAYWORKER WITH PAY FROM PRESBYTERY FOR COMING THREE MONTHS STOP WE PRAY THAT YOU CONSIDER OUR PLEA EARNESTLY
Signed: Elders Dan Katzeen and James Willard
Kluckwan, Alaska

Enclosed you will find copy of my letter to the Elders, and I am forwarding copy also to Mr. Wheeler. I do not recognize the name "Mrs. Bessie Jimmie" and am asking Mr. Wheeler to inform me more about her. I am certain that Mr. Wheeler has been doing his best to provide as much leadership as he can possibly give to the Kluckwan congregation. There was a time this fall when the roads were washed out when he could not get through to Kluckwan. He makes a practice of reaching Kluckwan whenever the roads permit his travel. He needs to have a larger travel allowance in connection with his ministry in this field which is 23 miles out of Haines on roads which are very hard on any automobile.

Is there any encouragement which we can give to these people in their hope for a layworker? There are about 100 people in that community according to my latest information, and there is no other denomination in the town.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska
January 20th 1939

The Session of the Klukwan Presbyterian Church
C/o Elders Dan Katzeek and James Willard
Klukwan, Alaska

Dear Brethern:

This letter acknowledges the receipt of your telegram which arrived this morning.

I am forwarding a copy of your telegram to Dr. J. E. Somerndike of the Board of National Missions immediately, on the steamer which sails south this afternoon.

Dr. Somerndike notified us that it was not possible to increase our force of workers in Alaska Presbytery during the year in which we now are. We regretted that it was not possible to place a layworker at Klukwan.

We have been thankful that Rev. R. K. Wheeler has been giving such fine help to the people of Klukwan at the same time as he serves at Haines. We know that his heart is with you, and he is willing to sacrifice himself to reach the hearts with the Gospel and help people to grow in the Christian faith.

We are pleased that you Church Elders have been so faithful in your office. You surely are doing the work which the congregation expected when you were elected to your responsible office.

I will be glad to have a letter from you giving our Committee more information concerning the party you have recommended as Layworker. Please let me know her qualifications and preparation for the Layworker leadership. That information will prove helpful when the National Missions Committee meets to make recommendations to the Board of National Missions. Presbytery will wish to have the information when the approval or disapproval of the Committee work comes up.

October 4th, 1938, I wrote to Rev. R. K. Wheeler that a grant of $20 for the stove and pipe for the Klukwan Church-House is available. Mr. Wheeler will confer with you on that subject. We are thankful that the Board of National Missions made that grant.

May God bless you and the members of the congregation all through the year.

Sincerely,
Russell F. Pederson

Jan.
25th
1939

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

Rev. Ralph Peterson, whom I approached with a suggestion to take the position of general missionary in Alaska, cannot see his way clear to leave Cordova. As a matter of fact, I think he is right in his decision. In view of the difficulty which we are experiencing in finding a man to act as general missionary, I am inclined to interpret the circumstances as a providential indication that the plans which we had in mind are not altogether practicable.

After giving the matter much careful thought and prayer, I am moved to make this suggestion: that the headquarters of the Princeton be at Wrangell after April 1st, that we engage Mr. Falconer to operate the boat at a salary of $1500 per year, and that we employ a regular helper - not depending upon whomever we can get for the time being as Mr. Swanson has been doing. I understood from your letter that Mr. Falconer is a fine Christian man and that he would be interested in accepting this position not simply because it affords a satisfactory living but because it is an opportunity for participating in Christian work. The boat would then be under your direction. You could direct Mr. Falconer and his helper to take the boat out at any time to answer calls to take sick people to the hospital or to bring them home in cases where they could not afford the regular boat fare, or for the transportation of bodies to family burying grounds, or for any other emergency ministries which it would be proper for us to render, besides directing Mr. Falconer to use the boat to transport the students back and forth from Sheldon Jackson School and Haines and to transport members of the Presbytery to and from the Presbytery meetings. He could be trained by you to carry a traveling library for the use of ministers and church officers, making periodical calls at each mission station to exchange books and to render any service that the missions might require.

The boat would also be available to you as Chairman of the National Missions Committee in visiting different stations in order to enable you to give closer supervision to the work than you have heretofore been able to do. The thought will immediately come to your mind that this arrangement will cut deeply into the service which you have been accustomed to render at Wrangell and that it might require you frequently to be away from your pulpit on the Sabbath. It would. To meet this situation, I would propose that we appoint an additional missionary who would make his headquarters in Petersburg, which is the neighboring station to Wrangell, who would be available to conduct your services at Wrangell on any Sundays you were obliged to be absent in visiting other stations. In other words, you and this additional missionary would work the two stations of Wrangell and Petersburg interchangeably - the other missionary however being located at Petersburg in order to give his attention specifically to that field when his services were not required at Wrangell. I think that this would be a better distri-

bution of our forces than to have both of you living in Wrangell. With the boat headquarters at Wrangell, you could get word to this missionary at Petersburg on short notice at any time that you might want him to come to Wrangell.

I would like you to give earnest thought to this proposal and let me have your reaction to it. We would provide an expense account for you to cover your expenses for meals, etc. while traveling on the boat, and of course we would take care of the operating expenses of the boat as we have done in the past. It would be understood that the boat would not be available to carry passengers except on errands of mercy where we are performing a ministry to people who are in need. The boat would not cruise about aimlessly but would be used only when it had some definite objective, although I can visualize this missionary who will be located at Petersburg, being willing to give some time to itinerant work among the fishing villages and canneries for periods of a week or two at a time. Such trips would be planned by you in conference with Mr. Falconer and this new missionary. In short, we would hold you responsible for the use of the boat in the most effective way possible but always with the clear understanding that the boat would not be used except for definite and worthwhile errands and projects.

This seems to me to be the best arrangement, at least for the present. I would like to operate on this basis for a year or two and give it a fair trial. It is economical and it impresses me as being based upon a sound policy. My zeal for the appointment of a general missionary was prompted not by any real desire on my part for the appointment of such a man but by the reports that had come to me from tourists in Alaska who had met our missionaries and who had been told by some of the missionaries (no names necessary) that the Alaska missionaries were very lonely and greatly in need of a general missionary for the territory who would visit them every now and then and give them inspiration.

Frankly, my friend, I was not deeply impressed by these reports, and I did not like to feel that our Alaska missionaries were the type of men who were unable to carry on in the strength of their Great Leader as missionaries in other fields far more isolated than Alaska are obliged to do. The request seemed to me to be something of a reflection upon our Alaska missionaries. I preferred to think of our workers in Alaska as a stronger type of men. However, the request persisted to such an extent that I finally decided that I would make every possible effort to appoint such a worker, giving the plan a full trial. Well, I have tried honestly and earnestly, and the strange part of the whole experience is that I now find no zeal at all on the part of the Alaska missionaries for the appointment of a general missionary.

I could wish that our Alaska missionaries when they meet tourists, would impress these tourists with the bigness and the glory of our Alaska missionary work, instead of using the opportunity as is so often done to tell the tourists how disadvantaged they are in working in Alaska and how many things they need which the Board does not provide. If the missionaries only knew how it embarrasses the Board when tourists return with the impression that the Board is not making the provision for the comfort and convenience of our Alaska missionaries that it should make, knowing all the while that we are doing far more in the way of providing living comforts for the Alaska missionaries than for any missionaries in the service of the Board, I am sure the missionaries would carefully avoid giving tourists such an impression.

Strange as it may seem, after contacting hundreds of tourists every summer - many of whom are financially able to do a great deal for the support of our Alaska work - the only experience that the Board has had in which a tourist has wanted to do something to help the Alaska work is the case of Mr. Scheide, who is contributing generously

toward our new native work in Juneau. The letters that we receive from tourists in the main are letters which criticize the missionaries. I have wondered sometimes whether the reason we have not succeeded in impressing tourists more favorably about our work in Alaska is because we have not pointed out to them with enthusiasm and pure joy the splendid manner in which the Board is standing behind its Alaska work and the freedom which it gives the missionaries to enlarge the scope of their work and to carry it on with the highest degree of success. Such demonstrations of loyalty not only create a favorable impression upon the tourists so far as the missionary himself is concerned, but they promote impulses to give something to the organization that is represented as doing its work so well.

These reflections are something of a diversion from the main object of this letter which was to counsel with you about the plan which I now have in mind for the use of the Princeton.

Another question which will naturally arise in your mind is this: if the Presbytery elects someone else as Chairman of the Committee on National Missions, will that mean that the Princeton will be moved to the headquarters of the new Chairman? To avoid that contingency, which would seriously interfere with our plans, I think that the Presbytery would be willing to accept the suggestion of the Board that the missionary who is assigned to Wrangell shall continue as Chairman of the Committee on National Missions for a term of three years; with the understanding, however, that if the Presbytery should elect someone else as the Chairman of the Committee on National Missions you would be offered an appointment as the boat missionary for Alaska so that you could continue to direct the activities of the Princeton, giving up your church at Wrangell if you so desired.

Please give me your best advice regarding the whole matter, also advising me whether Mr. Falconer will be available to take charge of the boat April 1st, or not.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

P.S. It occurs to me to say that this arrangement would make it possible for you to give more time to Wrangell Institute religious instruction classes.

J.M.S.

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Box 275
Wrangell
January 28th 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find the letter from Faulkner & Banfield relative to the Manse at Angoon which purchase was started about a year ago by former National Missions Chairman, Rev. John A. Glasse. I have written many letters to the various governmental departments, and so has Mr. Banfield. Looks like the deal is making progress. You have all the information in this enclosed letter. It would not surprise me should the Interior Department not act quickly. They are terribly slow. Perhaps you can send Mr. Banfield the check to hold until it is actually to be used.

Herein you will find the report of Layworker Samuel G. Johnson, his letter as a narrative, and a check for $8.64 which amount his church treasurer mailed me to forward to you.

Herein also you will find the report and narrative from Rev. E. E. Bromley. Along with this report Mr. Bromley sent me a personal note in which he expresses his feeling that Swanson is not being treated just right. I have been reviewing in my own mind the meagre reports which Mr. Bromley submits. I do not recall his giving any report during the past nine months on the finances in the Hoonah Church. He did send along a check for benevolences a short time ago, and he has had made out an "Application for N. M. Aid."

I think that Mr. Bromley should be reminded that it is his responsibility to include in his report information under items, 15 to 22 under statistical report. Perhaps your secretary could look up his reports and note the lack of information. Mr. Bromley is an older man and objects to the younger criticism. Yet, as a worker on a field entirely supported by the Board of National Missions, it seems to me he should be giving more information in his reports. If you think my point is not justified, it is O. K. with me for you to pass it up. I am not bringing it up to criticize, but to help in an indirect way. He would be plenty wrought up if he knew I provoked your request for more information.

Am glad to be able to report that Hydaburg Church has paid Rev. S. G. Davis $50 on salary for the winter and that they expect to pay $70 more with the help of their missionary society.

Recently I had a letter in answer as to whether Mr. Philip Falconer is yet available for the Princeton, and he said that he is. Your letter of the 20th seems to indicate that you are considering delaying the employment of boat operator until July first. That is a long interval of time. Mr. Falconer has a wife and child, and he may be employed by someone else if you wait too long.

Furthermore you have not indicated as to what you propose to do with the M/s Princeton during the time that Swanson will be out to the meeting of General Assembly. He will be away at least six weeks, and that will be the time the Princeton is very definitely needed for two projects. About the middle of May the Princeton is ordinarily used for two long trips returning the Sheldon Jackson students to their homes. The first week in June the Princeton is ordinarily used to carry young people to the Conference at Sitka. I presume that there will be a conference again this year. A conference will be almost impossible without the transportation afforded by the Princeton. Then the boat must return them to their homes.

I have not had an opportunity to talk this last proposal of yours over with any of the other presbyters, but the above is what came to my mind.

Mr. Knudsen was elected Dean of the 1939 Young Peoples' Conference, and we all expect that he will do much to make the 1939 Conference very helpful. One of our Wrangell elders moved to Skagway, and he reports that Mr. Knudsen is the best preacher in the Presbytery. We have met a number of Skagway friends as they sailed south this winter, and without exception they praise the fine work and preaching which Mr. Knudsen is doing. They like Mrs. Knudsen very much also.

Today we completed the installation of a "Neon-Cross" on the steeple of the Wrangell Church. When we were building, Dr. A. B. Keeler visited Alaska, and he told us that he would like to see this first American Church in the Territory carrying a lighted cross for the community and incoming steamers and boats to see as a message. One of our church members began laying aside small amounts, visitors helped, and our Missionary and Ladies Aid Societies gave a hand. Volunteer workers erected the cross. Now we are wondering whether we can increase our church budget enough to keep the cross lighted on a flat rate.

With best wishes to you as you meet so many problems in these trying days.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

P.S. On checking up on the Applications for National Missions Aid I find that I have record of sending to you the requests from Wheeler for Haines, Knudsen for Skagway, Bromley for Hoonah, Webster for Sitka, Pederson for Wrangell.

I wonder whether the Applications went in from Mr. Swogger for Metlakatla, Mr. Waggoner for Juneau First, and Christiansen for Ketchikan; that is for the present year.

Jan.
30th
1939

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I was very glad to receive Mr. Swanson's letter which was sent to Miss Florence Hayes, one of our publicity directors. I quite agree with you that it seems to show a little more activity along the direct lines of the work which Mr. Swanson is appointed to do. It is too bad he is such an erratic fellow and so difficult to direct. There would be no reason for displacing him if he would only realize the necessary under which we labor to use the boat for the explicit purposes for which it was built, and confine himself to them; or if he would submit to having the boat's headquarters at Wrangell with the understanding that the boat will be used only under your direction as Chairman of the Committee and that he will be the operator of the boat.

I am perfectly willing to withdraw the suggestions in my last letter in favor of this if you are willing to take the responsibility for directing Mr. Swanson. If this arrangement is made, I would insist that Mr. Swanson be used to help you in religious instruction of students at Wrangell Institute regularly, and that he positively agree that no trips would be taken with the Princeton except with your approval. If you want to try that plan for a year and see how it works, postponing any other changes, we will find someone else to take the work at Craig and let things go on just as they are. Please advise me.

****

I have read your letter with reference to the situation at Klukwan. There is no reason why we should be obliged to appoint an additional worker - even a lay missionary - for Klukwan. Most of the time it is possible for Mr. Wheeler to minister to this field; and in all cases in Alaska as in other National Missions fields, it is not too much to expect a missionary to have charge of more than one station, especially when it is possible for him to reach the station as conveniently as Mr. Wheeler is able to reach Klukwan. Please reply to the session of the Klukwan church that no funds are available for the employment of a special worker for Klukwan and that the Board has definitely given to Mr. Wheeler the assignment to serve that field together with the church at Haines.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

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JUNEAU, ALASKA
STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER.
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska
January 31st 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

The Presbytery of Alaska is having the spring meeting at Hoonah, beginning business the morning of March 20th. That means any communication you wish to address to the meeting should be in my hands March 12th or 13th. I suppose that the Princeton will have to be scheduled to start picking up members of Presbytery on the 13th, and that all will be landed in Hoonah Saturday night the 18th. Since Hoonah is off the regular steamship-mail run, mail needs be addressed to me here in Wrangell.

Enclosed you will find reports from Mr. Webster and Mr. Swogger. Mr. Webster must have forgotten to fill in one side of the report. Did not send it back to him because he had filled in what seemed to be the most important part.

Mr. Swogger has been so very rushed with plenty of manual labor as well as his spiritual leadership that he has not answered a number of my inquiries. I informed him that Mr. Swanson had said he is or has been renting a room, but he did not comment. Swanson says he is going to air the matter of rents at the meeting of Presbytery. Therefore we may expect more information at that time.

Of course Mr. Waggoner is very busy with his new plant. He has not sent in his report. Perhaps he will give some information.

In your letter to Mr. Swanson on the matter of rental you indicated a bit of confusion when you said that the house Mr. Waggoner he had been renting was sold some six months ago. Yes, the old general missionary manse had been rented, and the Board had received the rental from that building. In addition Mr. Waggoner has rented the upstairs of the manse which he occupies. He has insisted that the rental was paying for an oil burner, certain furniture and I do not know what else. I requested him to make a statement as to what the Board actually owed him and what he had received. I do not know whether he has tenants just now. It may be that he will claim that the rental of the upstairs covers the amount he has to pay out for a garage. As far as I know there has been no accounting.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

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Box 275
Wrangell
February 3rd 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

On receipt of your letter of January 20th I made plans to go over to Craig and Klawock on the Princeton. Arrived home this afternoon having been away 48 hours. Wish you could have had the boat trip for you certainly missed an experience. The Stikine wind began to howl and for several hours we wallowed in heavy seas. Beyond Pt. Baker the sea was calm with just a few rolls until we reached Cape Lynch. I had a queer feeling shortly after lieing down for a nap. The boat gave a heavy roll, and most everything in the cabin joined me on the other side. We arrived in Klawock early yesterday morning and had a meeting with Mr. Kaiper and his Session. After noon we went to Craig to remain until 11 p.m. The trip back home was not as rough as we expected, but it was interesting.

In the meeting with the Klawock Session I was real pleased to hear each Elder state reasons why they are all for Rev. Daniel Kaiper. He surely is holding their interest and drawing them into action. We ironed out the one point which had caused friction between Mr. Kaiper and one Elder.

Mr. Kaiper is finding it difficult to get along on the $60 a month income--$40 from the Board and $20 from the field. He told the Session that he hoped the Board would make a grant of $75 a month and that the field would pay $25 a month for the eight months beginning with Oct. 1/39, and that he would not serve Klawock unless the field promised to pay $25 a month. The session at first questioned whether they could do that much, but later seemed to think they could. Mr. Kaiper will be bringing his request for $75 from the Board to the meeting of Presbytery. I wish that you could see your way clear to give the Klawock field hope of the total of $600 for the eight months. Kaiper is doing his best and is doing the Klawock people good. They have never responded with self support before this.

The manse roof is leaking badly in several places. Mr. Kaiper said he would make the repair if he were furnished with the shingles. I felt that this is an emergency. Therefore, I had a thousand shingles put aboard the Princeton. Mr. Swanson will deliver them next week when he is scheduled for a visit to that district. I do hope you will pardon my incurring this expenditure without consulting you. Enclosed is the bill and expense voucher. - $45 - Must get approval before

The Session of the Craig Church met with me and talked over the employment of Rev. Verne J. Swanson as the minister to serve the Craig field. In the Congregational Meeting the motion was made and unanimously passed that Rev. Verne J. Swanson be invited to be their minister and that they would pay $15 a month toward the salary to begin with July first. There was a good attendance at this congregational meeting. The Missionary Society pledged to assist the church treasurer in keeping the promise of $15 per month, especially because they hope Mrs. Swanson may give them much help and guidance with leadership. The congregation promised that the $15 a month toward self-support would be but a start. As soon as they get the church building in repair and have their organizations strengthened, they earnestly hope to increase their monthly contribution for salary. I am certain they will do their utmost to keep their $15 pledge.

The following is my proposal to you relative to Craig, the Princeton, and Petersburg; and Mr. Swanson considers it practical:

1. Have Mr. and Mrs. Swanson move to Craig on the Princeton, April 1st, and occupy the Craig Manse. Mr. Swanson can use Craig only as a base until July 1st. This will mean that you can cut off the rental payments to Swanson as of March 31st, and thus save $30 a month.

2. Employ the boat operator to begin work on the Princeton as of May 1st. Mr. Swanson can take the Princeton to Ketchikan as of that date which will be about the time he will be starting for General Assembly. He did not tell me just when he will be starting for the meeting. The boat operator and the present helper can operate the Princeton until the General Missionary comes on the field. In this way the Princeton will be available and properly manned for the transporting of the Sheldon Jackson students and the young people's conference delegates.

3. If possible, have the General Missionary come to the field before July 1st. If he could be on the field by June 1st and be in attendance at the Young People's Conference in Sitka, he would have opportunity to get acquainted with the conference group and several of the ministers to distinct advantage, that is for the welfare of the whole field.

Mr. Swanson told me that he would unqualifiedly recommend Mr. Philip Falconer as the boat operator, that he did not know of a better navigator and felt he could soon do all the mechanical work. I was pleased to have Mr. Swanson evidence such a good spirit toward Mr. Falconer. Mr. Swanson would place the name of Mr. Don George of Sitka as a second choice in case anything should happen to cause Mr. Falconer to not accept the ppsition. Mr. Falconer should be hearing something definite very soon.

Mr. Swanson inquired as to where you expect the General Missionary to have his base. Mr. Swanson and I both think that Petersburg is the most central point for the work of the entire Presbytery. Either Wrangell or Petersburg should be the base. We think that Petersburg should be the base for the Princeton.

Furthermore,what are you planning as for the ministry to the Petersburg field? If the Princeton is based there, the wife of the General Missionary can give some missionary effort to Petersburg. Of course the ministry to the field will be stronger if a Layworker can be financed.

In whatever town the General Missionary is to have his base the matter of a residence or Manse is a necessary consideration.

Rev. and Mrs. Swanson are offering their completely furnished home for sale or lease. They are willing to give the Board first opportunity, and I wish to say that I do not know of anything better available at this time. Houses are at a premium in each town of Alaska.

Swansons offer their home for $1,900.00 or at a rental of $30 a month. He describes it as a six room,and bath, house on a plot 150 feet wide and 100 feet deep, or three lots. It is about a block from the Church. The foundation was renewed recently, the inside woodwork was repainted and all the rooms repapered, a modern sink and clothes washtub and kitchen cabinets were built-in.

The furnishings they listed as going with the house at $1900 include the following:

a Duotherm oil range (listed at $165, new last year)
a Sunlight five room oil heater, newly installed
new linoleum in kitchen, halls, pantry and bathroom
Venetian blinds in fromt & dining rooms and ordinary blinds on all other windows
Studio couch
Two rockers
Dining room set including table , 4 chairs & buffet
Kitchen set including table and 4 chairs.
Two double beds
One day bed
Two dressers
Three small tables
Three extra chairs
Chiffonier
Library table desk
Corner china glass door cupboard

To my mind this is a much better buy than the practically unfurnished house which was recommended by the Committee last year as a Manse at Angoon at $1350. If the Presbyterian Church expects to do any work in Petersburg with a resident missionary a Manse is necessary. Mr. Swanson states he has an opportunity to rent with option to buy in case the Board is not interested.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Anderson

Feb.
6th
1939

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I have your letter of January 28th. I shall keep in mind your suggestions concerning Mr. Bromley's reports, and I shall scrutinize them a little more carefully with reference to the matter of the financial participation of the Hoonah church in the support of the work.

I was under the impression that practically all of the missionaries in Alaska Presbytery would feel a sense of relief in having Mr. Swanson removed from the Princeton. In letters that I have received from nearly all of them they have expressed themselves as feeling that a change should be made. Now that we have been planning to relieve Mr. Swanson there seems to be quite a decided change of sentiment. You see how difficult it is to administer the work in a way that is satisfactory to all the men on the field under such circumstances. It is these very circumstances that make it necessary for the Board to administer the work according to its own best judgment.

However, all of our plans are changed because of the critical financial situation with which the Board is confronted. The income this year has not been up to the expectations of the Board at the time it fixed the budget, and every one of the administrative officers has been called upon to curtail expenditures at every possible point and to salvage all the money that can possibly be salvaged out of the appropriated budget. Under these circumstances and in loyalty to the Board, and in order to do our best to cooperate with the Board under these difficult conditions, there is nothing for us to do but to maintain the status quo. That means that Mr. Swanson will be continued as the boat missionary. I have written him accordingly, as you will see by the attached letter. I hope the plan I have suggested for the operation of the Princeton in my letter to Mr. Swanson will be entirely satisfactory to you. If not, and if you do not care to have anything to do with the direction of the movements of the boat or of Mr. Swanson, we shall be obliged to permit him to carry on just as he has been doing, with firm exhortations from the headquarters office as to the policy he should pursue - which however I fear he will not heed.

While Mr. Swanson is attending the meeting of the General Assembly, the Princeton can be tied up at Wrangell and the new boat that has been built by the Sheldon Jackson School can be used for the transportation of the stud and also for carrying young people to the conference at Sitka. If this is not prac cable, we will be willing to employ Mr. Falconer for six weeks at a salary of $30 week to operate the Princeton. This will cover the period during which the studen will have to be returned to their homes from the Sheldon Jackson School and the yo

people's conference trip. I will leave it to you to make these arrangements with Mr. Falconer. Kindly tell him that we are disappointed in not being able to carry out our original plan to employ him as the permanent operator of the boat, explaining to him that the financial situation has become so critical that all our plans for the extension of the work must be indefinitely postponed.

Of course the Princeton would be available for trips such as Mr. Webster has been making during the past year to other stations to encourage the work or to hold special services. The only restrictions that we are placing upon the operation of the Princeton are that it shall not be used for transporting from place to place passengers who have no relation to our work or whose errand is not related in some way to one of our missions, and that it shall not be used for fishing expeditions or for any recreational purposes whatever. Of course the carrying of students back and forth from Sheldon Jackson School and Haines School, the carrying of young people to the summer conference and back to their homes, the transporting of members of the Presbytery to the regular meetings, the transportation of the sick and of members of our missions on errands of mercy of any kind, in addition to its use by yourself as Chairman of the Committee in visiting fields - are permissible just as in the past.

The Craig field must be served from Klawock. I have written a letter to Mr. Kaiper about this matter today, a copy of which is enclosed. Since your Committee approved his appointment to Klawock, I can think of no satisfactory reason why you should not approve his appointment to Craig also. The constituency at Craig is so small that it would be very difficult, as I have repeatedly stated in previous letters, to justify the expenditure of the Board's funds of almost the full salary of a man in that field. If Mr. Kaiper will not serve both fields, it is quite likely that at the end of the present budget year we shall be obliged to request him to give up Klawock so that we can appoint a man who will be willing to serve both Craig and Klawock. The hardships of travel between the two places are gradually disappearing in the building of a new road which is now about half completed. The missionaries in the States willingly endure hardships similar to those to which Mr. Kaiper may be subjected in going from Klawock to Craig once a month to conduct services. As soon as I receive word from Mr. Kaiper I will relay it to you so that you can notify the Craig congregation what to expect in the way of service.

Please notify Mr. Betts that the bill for $10 sent in by Mr. Swanson for tapping the water-pipe at Kake cannot be paid until the Board approves the appropriation, which will be done at the next meeting.

With reference to the matter of the deed to the Angoon property, I will say that I have referred this to our Board's attorney, Mr. L. H. Tribus, who will correspond with you regarding it.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

P. S. The stringency of the financial situation will most likely make it necessary for me to postpone my proposed trip to Alaska this summer on account of the expense.

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BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska
February 6th 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

The evening of February 3rd I wrote you a long letter to give you the results of my trip to Klawock and Craig, and contacts with Swanson and Kaiper.

You will have noted paragraph three in my letter of the 3rd.

This evening I received a letter written by Mr. Kaiper the day after my visit to Klawock. He wrote:

"Thanks for your visit yesterday. It was a surprise to us all. The elders were immensely pleased with your consideration of them.

"As for the matter of our pay: that is taken care of until October 1st. What our remuneration is to be after that date I prefer not to come to any agreement with you personally at this time. I think it is a matter that concerns all the members of the Presbytery, that is, all the ordained ministers and trust that it will be brought up and discussed at the coming meeting of Presbytery. Please, therefore, do not give Dr. Somerndike the impression that I have agreed to anything until I have conferred with my brethern on the matter. You can rely that I will be reasonable and conscientious in serving the Presbytery and the Board."

Therefore, Dr. Somerndike, I imagine that it will be better for you to write nothing to Mr. Kaiper on the subject until we hear the requests to Presbytery and report them to you. Otherwise Kaiper may consider that I have mis-represented him.

I told Kaiper and the Klawock Session that the present Set-up is exactly what Kaiper requested, that the plan for Kaiper to be serving as a minister on a layworker's salary and another minister to serve Craig is exactly what Kaiper had *argued for*. Kaiper had to acknowledge that the situation is what he brought to pass.

This will require more prayer on the part of each of us.

Sincerely,

Russell F Pederson

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Box 275
Wrangell

February 13th 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

We suppose that you have heard of the Maritime strike which has tied up all shipping to Alaska via the American boats. The Canadian Pacific Steamship service is bringing us mail once in ten days. We received a ten days mail Friday morning, and that steamer is southbound this afternoon. We have been informed that our next mail will probably leave Seattle the 17th.

Received your telegram of the 6th, "AWAIT LETTER SENT AIR MAIL TODAY FOR FINAL SUGGESTION CONCERNING OPERATION OF PRINCETON." Your air mail letter will likely reach me the morning of February 20th.

I have noted your request that the Alaska missionaries do more to impress the tourists with the bigness and the glory of our Alaska missionary work. Also noted your comment that the only experience that the Board has had in which a tourist has wanted to do something to help the Alaska work is the case of Mr. Scheide.

Mrs. Pederson and I have done our best to help tourists recognize the importance of Presbyterian missions in Alaska. We have gladly presented the whole program of the Presbytery to many groups as well as individuals. We have denied ourselves and our family a furlough such as others have enjoyed because we felt that someone should be on the field for two purposes: 1st because the community needs the open church the year around and 2nd because many tourists visit this community and look for the Presbyterian Church. In 1936 when I went to General Assembly and was three months away from Wrangell, Mrs. Pederson served the church by maintaining all the services and putting on a Vacation Bible School; and in connection with my trip to Assembly, I spoke in many churches under the direction of the Board. It was a pleasure to do that, and all the way my emphasis was on the splendid direction and support the Board of National Missions is giving to Alaska. You will recall that Rev. George J. Beck did not see fit to give any time to this community at that season and Rev. Verne J. Swanson made a trip to Seattle so he could do nothing more than give a preaching service one Sunday when he came this way.

Perhaps we have kept the Wrangell property in too good repair and improved the grounds too much, so that the tourists think that there is no need for further support. We have had a joy in grading the grounds and preparing the extensive lawn which does give a helpful appearance. Our boys and I have mowed the lawns until we were plenty tired. We have done this manual labor because we felt that God's House and the grounds should be beautiful. We have felt bad when we noted property not kept trim.

In our contacts with visitors we have told them the Board of National Missions has done so much for the various missions in Alaska that we are determined to arouse our people to do more and more in support of the general program.

You stated that the letters that you receive from tourists in the main are letters which criticize the missionaries. Well, most of us realize that we are not perfect. We make mistakes as well as lack in vision. As for myself, if you are willing to tell me exactly what the criticism is, I will be glad to guard against the cause for repetition.

Sincerely,

Harold F. Hedenson

Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska
February 15th 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike: WRANGELL NARRATIVE REPORT

The past month has been full of interest and has yielded considerable satisfaction.

January 28th, the Neon Cross, a six foot cross with double neon tubing on both sides, was erected on the steeple of the First Presbyterian Church of Wrangell. Dr. A. B. Keeler who visited this church when the new building was being constructed made the observation that he would like to see a lighted cross on the steeple. During the past seven years others have expressed the thought that a lighted cross would mean much to the ships coming to Wrangell harbor, that the community would be affected by the message from such a lighted symbol. One of our members, a woman who came to Wrangell a year ago and was received by letter from the First Presbyterian Church of Seattle, voiced her determination to place a lighted cross on the Presbyterian Church steeple in Wrangell. The California Christian Endeavor Tour and other visitors assisted. The women of the church organizations made contributions. So, January 28th, this First American Church in the Territory of Alaska, this new house of worship being erected as a Memorial to Pioneer Christian Service, began to be marked by a brilliant neon cross. A woman who works day by day picking shrimp paid for lighting the cross for the month of February. A newsboy has paid two dollars to keep the cross lighted in March. Pledges have been made for lighting the cross in April and May.

January 29th, three young women were received into membership in the Church. One was reared in this Sunday School and answered the evangelistic appeal the first week in January. She was baptized and received on profession of faith in Jesus Christ. Another was a young woman from Seattle who has married and is developing a home in Wrangell. She came on reaffirmation and presented her baby boy for Christian baptism. The other was an Indian young woman who had neglected her spiritual interests, and now has renewed her activities in the church and missionary society.

Our prayer is that the lighted cross may be a real inspiration and challenge to spiritual living, and that the members of this church and congregation may be alive with a burning zeal to serve our Risen Lord and Saviour.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Rideout

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Box 275
Wrangell
Feb 15/39

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
156 Fifth Ave.
New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find the following handed me by Rev. Verne J. Swanson:

His statistical report. ✓
Check for $15 for rent he received from Petersburg manse. ✓
His expense voucher for $30 for rent of Petersburg manse. ✓
Princeton expense voucher for $44.70. ✓
Salary Voucher for $60 for Helper Eugene E. Bromley, Jr. ✓
Additional voucher for $10 for Helper Eugene E. Bromley, ✓
this additional voucher is on account of the check from the Board of National Missions being but $50 for December. The understanding was that he was to receive $60 a month.

Mr. Swanson asked me again yesterday whether I had heard anything from Mr. Swogger or Mr. Waggoner on the subject of rentals received. He is remitting the rental received from his manse, but he is determined others will be required to do the same.

I had to acknowledge to him that neither Swogger nor Waggoner had answered my letters. Swanson said that likely they would ignore me, and that it would require a letter from you to get results.

My paragraph to Waggoner was as follows: (Dec 29th) "Mr. Waggoner would you please send me a statement as to just where the Board stands financially with you as to the rentals. I think that Dr. Somerndike would appreciate an early statement. Have your rental receipts covered the costs of your installations? If not, just how much does the Board owe you?"

Swanson wanted to know the consideration which should be given of such cases as that of Layworker George Betts who he says is letting a couple of natives live in the manse with him. They are not paying rent but are helping with the fuel. My understanding is that they are cousins who are more or less living off Mr. Betts.

Have added these comments so that you may have an idea as to what Mr. Swanson may be bring up at Presbytery.

Sincerely,

Russell F Pederson

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REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
FOREIGN MISSIONS
REV. DONALD G. CHRISTIANSEN, CH.
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

PRESBYTERY
OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
MR. W. LESLIE YAW, CH.
SITKA, ALASKA
PENSIONS
REV. DAVID WAGGONER, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA
STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER.
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
February 22nd 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed you will find reports for Mr. Betts, Mr. Johnson, Rev. E. E. Bromley and Rev. R. K. Wheeler.

You will note that Mr. Wheeler expects to request that Presbytery recommend that the Board make a grant to enlarge the Haines Presbyterian Church. Mr. Wheeler does have a real opportunity in Haines for there is no other Protestant organization in the community to divide the people.

Since forwarding Mr. Bromley's telegram to you regarding the explosion and fire on the "A. L. Lindsley," I have been doing some thinking on the subject as to whether the Board will be justified in rebuilding a boat which was sixteen years old. I have talked to some qualified boat builders, and they state that unless the hull is in good condition having been well cared for, it is better to build a new boat. The Lindsley was rebuilt about 10 or 12 years ago when she broke her mooring at Hoonah, drifted out and had her bottom ground out on a reef. Of course we have not seen the remains of the boat. A local fisherman told me that he is interested in the possibility of buying the engine if it is to be sold. One can expect to realize $250 to $350 depending on the condition of the machine and the fittings.

What amount of insurance was the Board carrying on the Lindsley?

Under date of Feb. 16, Rev. Verne J. Swanson writes: "Dick Hanson of the local Fisherman's Union is offering to rent the church for $7.50 per month for the use of the building once or twice a month. It sounded good to me so I tentatively said, 'Yes,' saying that I would take the matter up with you. Don't think the meetings would interfere with services, if any. Believe they want to start Mar 15. They now pay $15.00 a month for a small hall."

Dr. Somerndike, this is Board owned property. I cannot help questioning the advisability of renting the Church to any of the Unions, that is on general principle. I do not know what the N. M. Committee would say, and I do not wish to make a personal recommendation. I wish you would answer this inquiry. This is the Presbyterian Church of Petersburg.

Mr. Swanson sent me a copy of his telegram in which he recommended Rev. Herbert Greig to replace him. Mr. Greig became a member of Alaska Presbytery while a teacher in Sheldon Jackson School. My suggestion is to go slow about appointing him. Mr. Greig is nice enough in some ways, but I am not ready to make a recommendation that he be appointed to serve on the Princeton. It

may be that Mr. and Mrs. Greig would work out nicely in that position. I know that Mrs. Greig criticized Mr. Swanson's work and expressed ideas as to how the Princeton service could be improved. Perhaps they would do good work; but I would want all the National Missions Committee to meet andgive careful consideration before the appointment is made.

Mr. Swanson made note, "On reaching home we learned of a petition being circulated locally to the end that we be allowed to stay here. We had absolutely nothing to do with it as we are all set for Craig."

I imagine that the Petersburg Chamber of Commerce wishes the Princeton to continue being based at Petersburg. In fact one of the Petersburg business men told me that the Princeton being based at Peterburg is one of the best publicity helps.

Mr. Swanson added to his letter that,"I am quite convinced that the majority of Presbytery would be glad to see a change on the Princeton so that is that."

~~Your request that Mr. Falconer be notified that the appointment as permanent operator will not be given him has been done~~

As you requested, I notified Mr. Falconer that he would not be appointed or employed as the permanent operator of the Princeton on account of the financial situation.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Anderson

Feb.
23rd
1939

Rev. R. F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I have your letter inquiring whether I have any communication to address to the meeting of the Presbytery. In reply I will say that the following matters should be brought to the attention of the Presbytery:

1. The financial situation which confronts the Board makes any advance in our work next year absolutely hopeless. We are confronted with the threat of a deficit of a quarter of a million dollars in the Board's operations this year. If the Board decides at its April meeting that it is necessary in view of the failure or inability of the Church to support the whole enterprise of National Missions on a more generous basis, to reduce the budget for next year, it will mean that there will be less money available to carry on the Alaska work than has been placed at our disposal for this current year. Because of this situation we have been compelled to abandon our plans for the appointment of a general missionary in Alaska. We are also obliged to postpone our plan to appoint a missionary for Craig. This field will have to be served for the present by occasional services on the part of the boat missionary. It is also necessary for the Board Secretary to cancel his plans to visit the mission fields in Alaska this summer. This is bitterly disappointing, but in view of the financial pressure it is unavoidable.

2. In view of this financial stringency, the Board will expect all of our Alaska churches to put forth special efforts to assume a larger measure of local support next year. That is to say, we shall expect that every church will put on a more thorough every-member canvass, and that the amount reported from each church to be given by the congregation toward the pastor's support will show an increase over the amount given this year. The Board is gratified with the response which our Alaska churches are making to the appeal for the benevolent agencies of the Church, but we feel that next year should witness a very decided advance. We believe that our Alaska churches have by no means reached the limit of their ability in supporting the benevolent work of our denomination.

3. The amount available for repairs to church properties next year will be very small. During the past few years we have spent large amounts of money in Alaska for property repairs and new construction. The stringency of funds will make it necessary for us to restrict expenditures for these purposes next year to the very lowest minimum consistent with necessity and efficiency.

4. The question has again been raised with reference to the location of the pro-

posed new church at Sitka. The Unit of Educational and Medical Work, which is in charge of the Sheldon Jackson School, does not favor the erection of the new church on the campus of the school. We would like the Presbytery to again review this matter and to express itself very definitely regarding it. It is very doubtful whether under the circumstances the Board will feel inclined to make a grant of the funds that will be needed to build the new church unless the building is erected at a reasonably central place in the community where it will be regarded as a community church and not as the chapel of the Sheldon Jackson School. We will be glad to have the unprejudiced opinion of the Presbytery regarding this matter.

5. We are very desirous of increasing the number of native missionaries in Alaska as rapidly as native men can be trained for the work. We believe that all of our white missionaries should be constantly on the alert to select young men who desire to dedicate their lives to Christian work and who have shown stability of character and faithfulness of purpose, to whom scholarships can be granted in accredited institutions where they can receive the full training that the Board now requires of all missionaries among all types of population. We wonder at times why we do not receive more applications from young men trained in Sheldon Jackson School and encouraged by their pastors, who wish to devote their lives to Christian work. It would seem that cooperation between the ministers and Sheldon Jackson School in this matter should accomplish the desired result. The Board is prepared to grant scholarships to those who are worthy.

6. Finally, we wish to express our sincere appreciation of the faithfulness of the missionaries in Alaska Presbytery, our gratification in noting the advances that have been made during the past year in various fields, and our appreciation of the fine spirit of devotion that characterizes the work of all those who have providentially been led to give themselves to service under the Board in the Alaska territory.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Feb.
23rd
1939

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

It is unnecessary for me to answer your letters about your trip to Craig and other plans until I receive a reply to my letter in which I told you that it was impossible for us to do anything that would require any additional appropriation this year. We must abandon our plans for a general missionary and for an additional missionary at Craig. In other words, the status quo must be maintained and we shall have to get along the best we can under the circumstances, realizing that the situation is not what we would like it to be but that we are doing the best we can under the circumstances.

In reply to my letter of February 6th to Mr. Swanson (of which I sent you a copy) he sent me the following wire:-

> RE YOUR LETTER OF FEBRUARY SIXTH REGRET I AM UNABLE TO ACCEDE BECAUSE OF PASSENGER RESTRICTION RECOMMEND HERBERT GREIG TWO HUNDRED ONE WEST MADISON WHEATON ILLINOIS WHO IS MEMBER ALASKA PRESBYTERY TO REPLACE ME RATHER CERTAIN KAIPER WOULD REFUSE SERVE CRAIG BESIDES KLAWOCK CRAIG DEFINITELY EXPECTING US SERVE THERE

In reply I have sent him the following wire:-

> BOARD HAS NO FUNDS TO APPOINT HERBERT GREIG IN YOUR PLACE IN CHARGE OF PRINCETON WILL EXPECT YOU TO CONTINUE AS BOAT MISSIONARY SERVING PETERSBURG WITH OCCASIONAL VISITS TO CRAIG BOARDS FINANCIAL CONDITION DOES NOT PERMIT ANY EXTENSION OF WORK OR INCREASE OF EXPENDITURES AT PRESENT PLEASE WRITE ADVISING CHANGES YOU RECOMMEND REGARDING PASSENGER RESTRICTIONS

and written him, per the attached copy. I am now awaiting his final reaction.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

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STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
February 25th 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

This afternoon I received copy of the letter Rev. Daniel Kaiper wrote you, February 23rd, in reply to yours of the 6th.

I am pleased to note that he is willing to do some work on the Craig field. It seems to me that arrangements should be made so that he will make two trips a month to Craig without waiting for the road to be completed.

Some time ago I was informed that Mr. Kaiper stated that the National Missions Committee of Presbytery is just a "Rubber Stamp" for the Board. If you go ahead and complete arrangements which you have started without giving the National Missions Committee opportunity to actually meet and go into the field situation thoroughly, there will be people who will insist that Mr. Kaiper is correct in his figure of speech.

I noted your statement, "Since your Committee approved his (Kaiper's) appointment to Klawock, I can think of no satisfactory reason why you should not approve his appointment to Craig also."

Dr. Somerndike, you know that both you yourself aand the National Missions Committee of the Presbytery were in a rather difficult situation last October. Members of the National Missions Committee "reluctantly" gave their approval to the return of the Kaipers, and that was because Kaipers were back and the field situation was exceedingly difficult.

The other National Missions Committee members know nothing about this plan of yours set forth in your letter of the 6th. My suggestion is that you write Mr. Kaiper that the plan is tentative and can go into effect only after the National Missions Committee meets and makes recommendations.

I note that Mr. Kaiper wishes the plan to be effective at once. Yes, he wishes the extra money to begin at once. He is receiving just what he asked for right now; that is $20 from the field and $40 from the Board. If the National Missions Committee approves and Presbytery recommends, it seems to me that April 1st is time enough to start the new arrangement.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

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BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
February 28, 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board Of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Mr. Christiansen sent me a copy of his letter addressed to you under date of February 22nd.

The Presbyterian Church at Saxman is very much in need of renovation. We cannot be proud of the condition of that property. It seems that Mr. Christiansen has been unable to arouse the congregation to any interest in the maintenance of their church. The situation has been disheartening particularly because of the "drink" problem.

Personally I think that the Saxman Church should be improved as a matter of denominational pride. It is in the heart of a section being publicized. If Mr. Christiansen's suggestion of transfer of the property to the government with "reservations" can be done and they will build a neat community church thereon, the accomplishment would mean much to all.

I expect that the National Missions Committee will agree to such an action. Will take it up with them at the meeting of Presbytery.

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
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BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
March 11th 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Last night we were surprised to see Mr. Swanson come in for a short visit. He was on his way to Craig for Sunday. Then he would be ready to start out with Klawock and Craig folks enroute to Presbytery. He should be in Wrangell at 5 a.m. Thursday, the 16th, and all the workers should be in Hoonah by 10 p.m., Saturday night.

We talked over the boat, "A. L. Lindsley." Mr. Swanson and his helper, Eugene Bromley, had been to Hoonah, and had carefully looked over the remains of the Lindsley. They both expressed themselves to me as believing that the hull and engine are hardly worth the cost of rebuilding.

Mr. Swanson said that Mr. Bromley told him that he was in no hurry to recommend action, but that he wished the members of Presbytery to express their opinion in some recommendation as a Presbytery communication to the Board.

Mr. Swanson feels like I do that if you can get a reasonable cash settlement of the insurance on the Lindsley, the more practical move would be to set that amount aside for the building of a new boat to be equiped with a diesel engine. Mr. Swanson said that he described the Lindsley to a Petersburg marine ways and boat building shop manager, and their conclusion was that it would cost about $4,000 to put the old hull in condition and rebuild and refurnish. Of course they are only guessing or estimating. Then the Board would have a 16 year old boat with an old gas engine.

You will be hearing from us promptly, as soon as we can have a committee meeting at Hoonah. I understood that the boat was insured for $4,000 or $5,000. I believe that you would be doing a good stroke of business if you can collect anywhere near that amount. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Sincerely,

Russell F Pederson

Mr. Swanson said that Mr. Bromley is O.K. His face is healed and the right hand in good condition. The left hand was not quite well.

Mar.
13th
1939

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

I think you had better go up to Kake and look over the property situation. Mr. Betts has written me that in connection with the construction of the new streets through the village, the C.C.C. has been taking some gravel from the front of the church property and he fears that if they take any more it will wash away a lot of our ground. He writes:

> "Mr. Anderson, the foreman, was over to see me. I told him we do not wish to have any more gravel taken from our beach, but he said that the beach was the only place where they could get gravel; and if they could not get it there the town will have to get along without a street. The gravel from under our church was enough for the back street. The back street is now finished."

I think that you had better make it clear to Mr. Anderson either by a visit to Kake or by 'phoning him that our church property must be protected. We do not want to stand in the way of the improvements, and I am requesting the Board to authorize the desired easement which will turn over to the Forest Service the fifteen foot right-of-way through our property that is needed to extend Church Street, but we do not want them to jeopardize the safety of our property by digging away the gravel which would weaken the foundations.

You may go ahead with the installation of the oil burner in the manse, with the understanding that the cost will not exceed $95. There is still available an amount not exceeding $400 for the building of the basement in the Kake church.

* * * * *

Replying to yours of February 25th, I wish to say that it is understood that my suggestion that Mr. Kaiper be assigned to take care of the work at Craig in connection with the work at Klawock is of course to be submitted for the approval of your Committee. If the Committee does not approve, I assume that they will make some other provision for the care of the work at Craig, which will not require any larger outlay of the Board's funds than was contemplated in the proposal which I made in my letter of February 6th. Regarding the circumstances under which Mr. Kaiper returned to the work at Klawock, I must remind you that I very vigorously disapproved of his return to the Klawock field, and it was only upon the recommendation of your Committee that he be permitted to take charge of that field on the present budget arrangement that I agreed to it. I think I wrote you at the time stating that I was quite sure it would not work out satisfactorily.

Your Committee may have given its approval "reluctantly" but the fact remains that you approved and that it was upon your approval that I agreed to the arrangement.

The insurance which the Board has been carrying on the Lindsley is $5000 for a complete loss. It is quite likely that we would not be able to realize the entire sum. Of course it will be necessary for us to have a complete statement regarding the fire and the extent of the loss before we can expect the insurance company to recognize the validity of any claim which we may make. Nothing should be done in the way of selling the engine or any other parts of the Lindsley that may be salvaged until after we have made our settlement with the insurance company. To do so would greatly embarrass the Board in effecting a satisfactory settlement.

At this writing I am unable to give any assurance that the Board will use the money which is obtained from the insurance on the Lindsley - whatever the amount may be - for the purchase of a new boat. This is a matter which will have to be given very careful and earnest consideration.

I am not opposed to the renting the downstairs' room of the Petersburg church property to the local fishermen's union for their meetings once or twice a month. It seems to me that we ought to be interested in matters that pertain to the welfare of the native people. In our rural church work we do not hesitate to allow agricultural unions and other organizations to hold meetings in our church properties. Should not the same privilege be extended to the fishermen's union in an Alaska field? I would not want our church property to be made available to the fishermen's union for a recreation hall or for any other purpose other than meetings at specified times, such as once or twice a month. It would be the understanding, of course, that this privilege would continue only so long as the meetings were carried on in a perfectly proper and dignified way without any entertainment features and with every safeguard against the use of liquor at these meetings. In other words, we would grant them the privilege of holding their meetings in the church at the rental they have specified - $7.50 per month - with the understanding that the privilege may be cancelled at any time that we may wish to use the room for other purposes or if any activities of a disorderly character are introduced into these meetings. In agreeing to this arrangement, I am assuming of course that the fishermen's union is an organization whose responsibility and influence among the native people is understood and recognized in the community, and that it is in good standing with the people. If it is not in good standing, I would be opposed to granting them any such privilege as they have requested.

* * * * *

I am enclosing a copy of a letter received from Mr. Swanson, to which I have attached a copy of my reply. We are now prepared to offer the position of operator of the Princeton to Mr. Falconer if in the judgment of your Committee he is the man who is best qualified to assume the responsibility. I will be glad to have your Committee advise me as to the date when you feel the resignation of Mr. Swanson should take effect. You will note that he states that it is his desire that it be made effective whenever a suitable man has been found to replace him. I cannot help feeling that the whole situation with reference to our Alaska

work will be greatly improved with the departure of Mr. Swanson. We do not care to offer an appointment to Mr. Greig to take Mr. Swanson's place.

Of course we could not agree to Mr. Swanson's request that the operator of the Princeton be allowed to exercise his own discretion in the matter of carrying passengers. I think you will agree with me that we should have some very positive rule with reference to this matter.

I shall await your further advice regarding these matters.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Box 275, Wrangell, Alaska
March 15th 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike: NARRATIVE REPORT

The following is submitted as the narrative of the state of religion in Wrangell.

Wrangell is the center of considerable religious industry. The Episcopal Church has ordained their lay leader as a deacon, and he is assisted each two months by the priest from Ketchikan, and they are encouraging each organization in town to assist with the support of their mission hospital which is a real asset to the community. The Salvation Army is continuing their set-up of headquarters in Wrangell and three officers in active service. The old man who has served as priest in the Roman Catholic Church surprises all by his activity in maintenance of their property and services. The Superintendent, the Director of the Health Centre, and others at Wrangell Institute who are faithful Roman Catholics are of real assistance to the priest. They help to keep the young people in line. The Pentacostal Assembly has been unusually busy. They have an ordained woman minister in charge of their mission with an ordained Four Square Gospel minister assisting, and in addition have a licientiate minister and wife and an ordained missionary and wife. They recently had a grand opening of a mission hall with living quarters therewith down on the main street. This week they have an evangelist from the South holding revival meetings each night. Last fall the 7th Day Adventists placed a missionary and wife in residence in Wrangell. They conduct Saturday worship and are very active whereever homes will permit them to show illustrated lectures. They cover the town each week in their distribution of pamphlets and tracts.

The Presbyterians have been active and are spiritually alive. We are preaching the Gospel and encouraging the organizations of the church to do their utmost. Our people wished to increase the local budget this coming year. They have taken but a slight increase in salary as their responsibility, pledging $20 a month for minister's salary. They increased other items in the budget which will finance increased activities..

The Sunday School attendance has been very good all through the year. We believe that the August Vacation Bible School stimulated attendance through the early part of the year. We have two new teachers who have been a true inspiration.

The Ladiex' Aid Society (whites) and the Missionary Society (almost all Indians) are active and have assisted in meeting the financial obligations of the church, as well as being missionary in action.

Our young people who have attended the Young Peoples' Conferences at Sitka have stimulated a larger interest in the 1939 Conference. Seven from Wrangell and several from Wrangell Institute have expressed their hope for the opportunities in Leadership Training in the Conference. One of our young people has had the winter in the West Seattle Presbyterian Church, and she is writing fine letters as to her hope of being of real service to the Presbyterian Church and Wrangell young people.

The Week Day Bible Classes have proven interesting to all of us. Mrs.Pederson is working particularly with hand-work activities and assisting in Scripture memorizing. The older young people have wished to turn their class into a Junior Christian Endeavor. We have found Bible games such as Bible Lotto a real challenge to greater familiarity with Scripture. The Wrangell Institute Bible Classes have been well attended each Tuesday night. In spite of many conflicting activities the Institute young people have given a nice response. Some of our best young people have been offered employment on the night we have our classes, and they cannot refuse their financial opportunity.

The Home Department has increased in numbers. We think that the members are actually reading and studying the lessons. We now have twenty-five home department members. Several families out of town between here and Wrangell Institute are delighted with the series of lessons and helpful material offered by the Board of Christian Education.

When the weather permits open boat travel we expect to visit the fur farms on the near by islands. The families are pleased with pastoral calls. It is much easier to visit the families along the highway with the use of the Ford than those on the islands which can be reached only by boat. The outboard motor does not always bring the boat home.

We are glad that the various civic organizations urge us to participate in and enjoy with them many community opportunities. We know that we must not fail the people who invite us to come to them.

As we think back through the year, we thank God for many spiritual privileges. One high school girl in particular has shown a rich response,and we believe will be a true leader. A young woman of Thlingit blood has made consistent progress since she attended the Young people's conference last year, and is now Secretary of the Missionary Society. An older Indian woman who two years ago united with the church on profession of faith has been so faithful as the president of the Missionary Society. Another woman who was received by letter from the First Church of Seattle has been active in securing the Neon-Cross which is now erected and is lighted each night to bring a message to the community and the ships coming to this harbor. Several others have shown a beautiful spiritual life and help us to recognize the fruitfulness of the Word of God.

Sincerely,

Russell F Pederson

Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Box 275, Wrangell, Alaska
March 22nd 1939

Secretary Alaska Fields, Dear Sir: NATIONAL MISSIONS REPORT

The following is a copy of the National Missions Committee report to the Annual Spring Meeting of the Presbytery of Alaska:

"Mr. Moderator and Brethern:

In a preliminary report we have read to you the communication addressed to the meeting of Presbytery by Dr. J. M. Somerndike under date of February 23rd, and have brought to your attention some of the developments within the Presbytery.

As we present our National Missions report we feel that we have many reasons to be grateful to our Heavenly Father for His care and guidance in all our efforts. We are thankful for the spirit of confidence, harmony, and consecration among the members of this Presbytery and the churches thereof. We think of our purpose and objective to bring men and women, boys and girls to the knowledge of Jesus Christ; and to lead them in the Christian way of living as it is in the life of our Lord and Savior.

The narratives presented show many encouragements for which we thank God and take courage. We have met all the men who expressed a desire to confer with the Committee, and are bringing recommendations which we pray may be of actual help.

In the following recommendations the attempt has been made to meet the actual needs of the several fields and restrict expenditures to the very lowest minimum consistent with necessity and efficiency.

Subject to such changes as you may decide to make we ask you to unite with the Committee in the following requests for repairs and improvements on the churches and manses named:

✓Haines--Painting bath & kitchen of Manse ------$32.00

✓Hoonah--Reshingling one side of church roof---- 25.00

✓Sitka---Manse roof repairs ---------- 25.00

✓Wrangell--Manse roof repairs ---------- 25.00

In the light of Dr. J. M. Somerndike's letter of February 23rd we recommend that the salary grants and other items for the period of October 1, 1939, to September 30, 1940, be continued the same as in effect at present; with exception of increase of travel grant for Haines-Klukwan field:

			Salary	Travel
Juneau & Douglas	Rev.David Waggoner		$1525.00✓	100.00✓
Sitka	Rev.H.L.Webster		1115.00 1105.00	
Hoonah	Rev.E.E.Bromley		1525.00✓	
Wrangell	Rev.Russell F. Pederson		1350.00✓	75.00✓
Ketchikan & Saxman	Rev.D.G.Christiansen		1525.00✓	25.00✓
Skagway	Rev. Edwin Knudsen		1015.00✓	
Metlakatla	Rev. A.D. Swogger		1525.00✓	
Haines & Klukwan	Rev. R.K. Wheeler		1165.00✓	90.00 150.00
Craig & Klawock			1525.00 -	150.00
Angoon		(7 mos)	350.00 437.50	
Hydaburg		(8 mos)	400.00 -	
Kake		(8 mos)	400.00 500.00	

		Salary	Travel
Princeton Boat & Petersburg	Rev. Verne J. Swanson	$1525.00 ✓	(Rent) $360.00 ✓
Princeton Helper		720.00 ✓	
Princeton Maintenance		500.00 ✓	
Lindsley Maintenance		150.00 ✓	
Auk Lake	Rev. John A. Glasse		120.00 ✓
Travel National Missions Committee			100.00 ✓
Presbytery Meeting			75.00 ✓
Furlough Travel and for New Missionaries			300.00 ✓

The following specific recommendations are submitted for your approval:

1. That a fifteen foot right of way through the Kake property be granted with the restriction that no gravel be taken from the beach in fromt of the Kake Church property. (Presbytery did not approve this recommendation)

2. That the request of the Hoonah Indian School, Dept of Interior, for lot one of the mission grounds as a site for the proposed school boat building and machine shop be granted.

3. That Presbytery approve the transfer of the Saxman Church property to the village of Saxman with understanding that ecclesiastical control and supply of minister by continued by the Presbyterian Church, Presbytery of Alaska.

4. The mission boat, "A.L.Lindsley," has been taken to Petersburg to be reconditioned by the Insurance Underwriters. In view of the fact that there is a growing need for the services of our mission boats, we feel that now is the time to adapt the Lindsley to meet a larger service. A new cold storage plant is being built in Lazyanskie Sts. There is a growing settlement at Elfin Cove, and the possibility of an Army Base at Gustavus; and there is the established cannery work and Daily Vacation Bible Schools which have been possible through the use of the Lindsley. Therefore we recommend that a diesel engine be installed and that four more berths be built in the space occupied by the old and larger engine. This will make possible longer trips and more passenger space for the meetings of Presbytery and Young Peoples' Conferences. An offer of $400 has been received for the old engine.

5. That Gibson Young be recommended to the Board of National Missions for a scholarship at one of our Presbyterian Colleges for the coming year, preparation for service as a Commissioned Church Worker.

6. That no recommendation as to the three West Coast fields: Hydaburg, Craig and Klawock be made until after the meeting of the Board and a decision as to limitations of our budget and further correspondence with Dr. J. M. Somerndike.

7. That the Sheldon Jackson School faculty and staff be highly commended for the splendid work and cooperation with the churches of Alaska.

8. That Haines House staff be commended and the staff be given our full support in their difficult service, and the churches be urged to send contributions of food and other things to assist in the Home activities.

9. That each church in Alaska Presbytery put forth special efforts to assume a larger measure of local su port the coming year, and that every church put on a more thorough every-member canvas to the end that each church may show increased financial support of their pastor.

10. That we express to Dr. J. M. Somerndike and the Board of National Missions our sympathy in their serious financial problems, pledging our support and fidelity to the Board and the Presbyterian Church program in Alaska, and our deep regret that he has cancelled his visit to Alaska this summer.

11. That a grant be allowed for additional layworkers to man certain fields such as Kasaan and Klukwan, and again we plead that the Layworkers' salary may be increased to $75 a month for eight months and manse, and that the placing of the Layworkers be left in the care of the National Missions Committee.

12. That our ministers and churches use every proper means to fight the liquor traffic, and support legislators committed to better control with desire for return of Prohibition.

13. That each missionary make an inventory of the Board owned furnishings in his manse and church, and note condition of articles, and the boat operators do the same with boat equipment and submit copy of same to the National Missions Committee Chairman as early as conveniently possible.

14. That the unexpended grant for the Angoon Church be renewed or carried over into the coming year, improvements to be made this fall.

15. Kake last year requested a grant of $600 to aid them with a church basement. This was not allowed. Kake has gone forward with preparation for the basement, and now has most of the excavation completed with the church on good cedar posts. Considerable lumber has been purchased toward completion of the project. The Kake Church has asked that the request be increased to $1,000. Your Committee has counselled with the Kake Elder to Presbytery to canvas the local community for both labor and material, cash contributions and pledges; and then to renew the request for the amount necessary to supplement which amount your Committee recommends be requested of the Board.

16. That the new church at Sitka be located in a more central site in the community. (After discussion on floor of Presbytery, this recommendation was declared out of order. Presbytery reaffirmed that the body has not changed the opinion declared two years ago and is not willing to change the action.)

17. That a grant of $250 be provided to assist in the operating budget of the Memorial Presbyterian Church of Juneau.

18. That the churches of Alaska Presbytery observe the special National Missions days such as Lincoln's Day and Thanksgiving with special offerings for the Board of National Missions.

19. We must inform Presbytery that Dr. J. M. Somerndike asked us to inform the Session of the Klukwan Presbyterian Church that no funds are available for the employment of a special worker for Klukwan and that the Board has definitely given Rev. R. K. Wheeler the assignment to serve that field together with the Church in Haines. We recommend that a layworker be employed if funds are available and the right leader can be secured during the period Rev. R. K. Wheeler will be absent on furlough which he states he expects to take this winter.

20. We recommend that Rev. Verne J. Swanson be reemployed as boat missionary in charge of the Princeton, and that as soon as the Board funds will permit another ordained missionary be secured to carry out the plan agreed on last year at Angoon. (Mr. Swanson has informed us that he does not wish to continue to serve as operator of the boat Princeton.)

21. We recommend that the missionaries of the Presbytery invite a fellow minister to conduct a series of meetings during a favorable season, and that the Princeton be made available for transportation when practical.

22. That the Princeton be made available to choirs of the churches when convenient to the boat missionary in the accomplishment of his scheduled activities.

23. In order that the Princeton may be available for service during the absence of Rev. Verne J. Swanson to General Assembly, we recommend that Rev. E. E. Bromley with Eugene Bromley as engineer and assistant on a salary of $30 a week operate the Princeton for the six weeks period following Mr. Swanson's departure about May 15th.

24. We are looking forward with joy to the time when Walter Soboleff will be ready to take up service in our Presbytery, and we recommend that Walter Soboleff on graduation be stationed at Kake, or one of our other Native fields.

25. That Rev. A. D. Swogger be congratulated for the Manse which he erected since our last meeting of Presbytery.

We call your attention to the increased self support of the churches at Sitka, Haines, Klawock and Wrangell.

We appreciate the recommendation of the Committee on Christian Education that some form of recognition of long and faithful service for lay leadership be provided, and we agree to try to have some plan for presentation at the Fall meeting of Presbytery.

Sincerely,
Russell F. Pederson

The National Missions Committee
Russell F. Pederson, Chairman
J. L. Webster
A. D. Swogger
E. E. Bromley
Elder Frank Price(not present at meeting)

March 23rd, 1939

Rev. Russell F. Pederson
Box 275
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

We are trying our very best to carry on in the face of our great loss, but the going is hard as you can well imagine. Dr. Somerndike was such a dear friend to us all that it is difficult to becom reconciled to his passing; but he would want us to continue the task, and we are trying to carry on.

We have your letter of February 28th with reference to the turning over of the Saxman Church property to the Village of Saxman. We have taken up this matter with Dr. Morse, our Administrative Secretary, and he will take it up with the Board just as soon as we have the recommendation of the National Missions Comaittee with reference to this matter.

We referred to our insurance department your wire regarding the restoration of the "Lindsley." On March 21st, they wired you as follows:

> OUR INSURANCE COMPANY'S REPRESENTATIVE HERE WILL OBTAIN CONFIRMATION FROM COAST REGARDING DAMAGE TO LINDSLEY BOAT. HAS REPAIR WORK BEEN STARTED, AND HAVE YOU AGREED ON A FIGURE FOR APPROXIMATE COST TO REPAIR? IF YOU HAVE NOT AGREED, DO YOU HAVE AN ESTIMATE, AND WHAT IS THE AMOUNT OF IT?

Will you kindly write us regarding this matter as soon as possible?

Are we to understand from your letter of March 15th that the church is assuming $20.00 additional each month on account of your salary, thereby decreasing the grant of the Board by that amount? If so, will you kindly let us know when this new arrangement goes into effect?

We hope you had a very successful presbytery meeting this week and we shall be anxious to receive your recommendations.

Very truly yours,

EH:PDS UNIT OF INDIAN WORK

March 26, 1939

Mrs. J. M. Somerndike
654 Varsity Road
South Orange, New Jersey

Dear Mrs. Somerndike,

This morning Mrs. Pederson and I received the letter from Dr. Morse informing us of the death of Dr. Somerndike. We wish that we could speak with you, and we are remembering you and your family in prayer.

We are thankful for the vigorous life that our friend lived. We know that you must have helped him to attain and maintain the spiritual strength which reached us even away up here in Alaska. We have considered him one of our very best friends. He proved worthy of our confidence. I never hesitated to give him our confidence because he never failed us.

The Board of National Missions will search a long while before another capable executive can be found to start to take his place. He amazed us with his complete knowledge of our fields, his understanding of our problems, and his ability to give us good counsel. God blessed us with a real friend when he took over the administration of the Alaska work.

Dr. Somerndike wrote me that one of his regrets was being away from his home and family so much of the time. While he was bringing inspiration and challenge to the visits in distant places, he was with his family in spirit. We thank God that while he is now with our Saviour, we may all be confident that he is included as we recall the measure of Paul: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

We send our love and assure you of fellowship as God supports and strengthens you.

Sincerely,

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
UNITED PROMOTIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
FOREIGN MISSIONS
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KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

PRESBYTERY
OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
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PENSIONS
REV. DAVID WAGGONER, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA
STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER.
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
March 25th 1939

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Reached home this morning following meeting of Presbytery at Hoonah. A number of the men handed their reports and expense vouchers to me during the meeting, and they are herewith.

You will note that Rev. Verne J. Swanson does not have a refund or remittance check along with his report and voucher for $30 for rent for the month of March.

Mr. Swanson brought up the matter of remittal of rentals to the Board in a meeting of almost all the ministers of the Presbytery. He stated that he was going to "air" the subject of having to send rental money to the Board, especially because he felt there was a discrimination.

Rev. David Waggoner told at some length how in years past the late Rev. F. R. Falconer had been allowed a maximum of $25 a month as a rent allowance, that the Board had an ironclad rule which must have been overlooked when Mr. Swanson was allowed an allowance of $30. Mr. Waggoner told us that he has been renting part of the Board owned manse in which he lives. He is receiving $40 a month from renters living in his manse. He provides heat and water so the $40 is not net. He told how he had to have a larger income than his salary on account of sickness and heavy doctor bills over a long period. He said that all the furnishings of the manse are his own personal property, that the Board had never purchased an article of furnishings for his manse, that Mrs. Waggoner had extra work keeping the halls clean and that she actually earned the net income derived from the rentals.

Other ministers told that they had from time to time received rental from a room rented to school teachers. Rev. A.D.Swogger said he had been boarding a teacher but that the receipts hardly covered the cost of the board. Swogger is not receiving any extra income from the rental of Board property at this time.

Rev. J.L.Webster volunteered to write you a letter telling you that most of the ministers believed they should be entitled to retain any money received from rental of a part of their manse because the manse is a definite part of their income and their home with which they can do as they wish, or should be allowed.

I told the group that I could see your view point and would not sign a letter of protest. For Mr. Swanson to receive $15 a month beyond the $30 allowed per month for a $1900 house owned by himself, is not preserving a balance in salaries. Waggoners are coming to the end of their ministry with no savings. They could not pay up if you demanded back rentals. In fact Waggoners claim they have only enough to pay their fare to Seattle when they finally leave Alaska.

Mr. Swanson said he would wait for your action following receipt of Mr. Webster's letter before making more remittals.

Sincerely,

Russell F Pederson

Equipment on "A.L.Lindsley"

Manual anchor winch
Vibraphone air whistle and air tank
Barometer
Compass with binnacle light
pair of field glasses (night glass)
pilot stool
twelve navigation charts
Coast pilot book
Hansen Course book
Pilot log book
1 pyrene fire extinguisher
1 foamite fire extinguisher
1 U.S.flag and 1 Canadian flag
5 light cotton blankets, double,pre
3 pairs heavy wool blankets
6 pillows
1 dozen sheets 6 cotton pillow cases
1 large mirror in lavatory
wash bowl and toilet
galley sink
1 canvas cabin curtain
2 cold handle skillets
1 steel skillet
2 drip pans
1 platter
3 pie plates
1 large double boiler
1 small kettle
1 large kettle
1 cover
1 butcher knife
1 cake turner
1 can opener
2 paring knives
1 dish mop pail
2 dish pan
2 wash dish
1 cook stove, ship main
11 plates, 11 saucers, 10 cups
dozen each of tea spoons, table spoons
dozen each of knives and forks
1 cream pitcher
1 sugar bowl
1 potato masher
1 egg beater
1 rolling pin
1 bread blade hatchet
pepper and salt shakers
5 leather covered cushion mattresses
1 spot light
pike pole
running lights
mast
row boat
1 pair of seven foot oars
fog horn
2 canvas sails
1 fire axe
2 fire buckets
8 life preserv rs
1 circle life buoy
1 blow torch
[illegible] tools and spares

1 exploration aerograph
generator
20 hp Briggs & Stratton engine
Edison batteries, 12
bilge pump
Water and gasoline tanks
1 light hatchet
1 belly light hammer
3 [illegible] wrenches
1 pair riveting pliers
1 pair wire cutting pliers
1 pair adjustable pliers
1 large & 1 small screw driver
1 handy oil can
1 spring bottom oil cans
1 spring bottom spout oil can
1 chart weights
1 large pump for oil suction
1 oil drum sub tank & large valv
1 crescent wrenches
4 end wrenches
2 small files
1 wire reamers
1 bearing scraper
2 wood chisels ½" 1-2"
1 [illegible]
1 rip saw
1 cross cut saw
1 bitstock
1 set auger bits
1 large size monkey wrench
1 pair tin shears
1 hack saw and 6oz blades
1 draw knife
1 solder ladle & 2 solder irons
solder, soldering paste
1 bare hatchet
2 deck scrapers
1 3" riveting header
1 mill [illegible] file, 1 6" round nun
1 small wheel pulley
twine mat, white rubber packing
hard grease
bag of spare parts for engine
1 extra impeller
engine special wrenches
1 deck broom
1 emery stone, mounted
1 garden city claw hammer
pair of falls and double block
gear for raising boat to
the cabin deck
1 6" ship's bell

2 anchors & chain
1 sounding lead and line
2 serving pans
1 coffee pot
1 tea pot
1 tea kettle
1 coal ashtis shovel
1 found pilot rules in glass
1 vise

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

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JUNEAU, ALASKA

STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER.
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
March 27th 1939

Miss Helen E. Wolf
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Miss Wolf:

Yesterday we received the letter from Dr. Morse informing us of the death of Dr. Somerndike. That letter is a shock. I am enclosing a copy of my letter of sympathy to Mrs. Somerndike. Truly we had great confidence in Dr. Somerndike, and we felt at all times that he was a great understanding friend. I am thankful that you will be continuing in his office for we know that you have a good grasp of conditions and fields in Alaska.

March 23rd, enroute from Presbytery, I sent the following message: PRESBYTERY REVERSED RECOMMENDATION ON KAKE RIGHT OF WAY GRANT PERIOD DO NOT DEED SAME PERIOD PRESBYTERY MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT KAIPER PERIOD. PRESBYTERY PASSED RECOMMENDATION NO ACTION ON GRANT FOR KAIPER PERIOD CRAIG REFUSES SERVICE OF KAIPER PERIOD LETTER FOLLOWS WITH MORE INFORMATION KAIPER PROBLEM.

After visiting the village of Kake and going over the ground thoroughly we found that it is not wise to allow a road to be built where the Forrestry Department wishes. That road would be right up against the church and traffic might interfere with quietness desired during worship. Furthermore the church wishes to excavate for a full basement. The church session after reconsideration expressed a desire that the Board refuse the request.

You are acquainted with the correspondence which has been passed back and forth concerning Rev. Daniel Kaiper. You will recall that Dr. Somerndike in his letter of March 13th had stated that he very "vigorously disapproved of his return to the Klawock field."

Regarding Rev. Daniel Kaiper, the National Missions Committee feels that his extreme nervousness and his mental and emotional instability make him unsuitable for missionary service; and we recommend that an experienced man be found for service in the difficult Craig-Klawock field. All the ministers of Presbytery expressed themselves as believing that Mr. Kaiper is a mental case.

Craig and Klawock are logically considered as one field, and can be served satisfactorily by the right kind of a missionary. Craig has expressed themselves as not wishing Mr. Kaiper's service. Kaiper seems to have quite a number of followers who wish him to minister in Klawock; but the ministers of the Presbytery do not recommend that he be continued on the field.

I do not know how we are going to accomplish his removal. We approved the Klawock request that a grant of $40 be allowed up to May 31st. That had better be carried out. Some of the ministers fear that Mr. Kaiper may do somebody or himself bodily harm.

Mr. Kaiper is not a well man physically or mentally, and it is almost impossible to talk with him unless you agree with his convictions. He told our N. M. Committee that he had to go to Seattle some time this summer to have his glasses changed, and that Mrs. Kaiper would have to go south for a minor operation.

Perhaps you can suggest some peaceful way to effect removal. We hope that your office will take the responsibility so that there may be no reason for his charging fellow ministers with trying to drive him out.

We avoided action in Presbytery by stating that it was useless for any recommendations until after the Board met again. This is the recommendation we passed after considerable discussion on the floor of Presbytery: "That no recommendation as to the three West Coast fields: Hydaburg, Craig and Klawock, be made until after the meeting of the Board and a decision as to limitations of our budget and further correspondence with Dr. J. M. Somerndike."

We offered such a recommendation for two reasons. The first was that Presbyters dreaded the several days boat travel with Mr. Kaiper infuriated and we felt that arousing him would do more harm than good. The second was that the skipper of the boat requested that nothing be done until after Presbytery.

As to the employment of Mr. Phillip Falconer on the M/s Princeton, I have sent word to him to learn whether he is available now, and I am waiting for the approval of the other N. M. Committee members. Presbytery passed a recommendation that Rev. Verne J. Swanson be reemployed as boat missionary in charge of the Princeton, and that as soon as the Board's funds will permit, another ordained mission ry be secured to carry out the plan agreed on last year at Angoon. Mr. Swanson told me that he does not wish to continue on the Princeton.

Am enclosing an expense voucher for $95 which was authorized by Dr. J. M. Somerndike in his letter of the 13th, for the installation of an oil burning range. The old stove and burner will cover the balance, we believe.

The Wrangell Shingle mill manager told me that he had not received the $4.50 which I requested as an emergency grant for shingles for repair Klawock manse, for which I submitted an expense voucher, about 6 weeks ago.

Dr. Somerndike wrote me that Rev. S.G.Davis must send the Board the amount he receives from the Hydaburg manse rental; and that the amount would be remitted to Mr. Davis, as rental allowed for the use of his own home. You recall that Rev. S.G.Davis who is a retired minister is serving the Hydaburg Presbyterian Church without any income from the Board. He is living in his own home, and Dr. Somerndike allowed him to rent the Board owned manse with the understanding of being allowed $5 a month rent.

In Dr. Somerndike's letter of March 13th on page one there is this statement: "There is still available an amount not exceeding $400 for the building of the basement in the Kake Church."

I understood that there was an unexpended grant yet available for the Angoon Church, but did not know that there is anything available for the Kake Church.

The Angoon Church requested Presbytery to recommend to the Board that the unexpended grant be carried over into the new budget of 1939-40 because they did not expect to be able to do the work before October 1939.

If there is an unexpended grant of $400 for the Kake Church, please let me know because Kake is pleading for a grant to assist them in going farther with their basement project.

Miss Wolf, my desire is to be of the best assistance possible to you and to the successor of Dr. Somerndike. Mrs. Pederson and I are remembering you in our prayer.

Sincerely,

Russell F Pederson

Mailed today a box containing the 16 mm projector and two sets of films Dr Somerndike loaned the Presbytery.

P.S. Your message of March 21st was waiting for me on my return from the meeting of Presbytery.

The insurance company had the boat, "A.L.Lindsley", towed to Petersburg. We understand that the insurance adjustor was going to Petersburg to thoroughly look into the necessary repairs and replacement.

I do not know whether repair work has been started. We were informed by the Anderson Marine Ways that an estimate of $2,500 was given to the Insurance Company as the cost of rebuilding the boat and putting the engine in running condition. We did not understand that amount would replace all damaged equipment. $500 more will likely be required, that is to re-equipe the boat according to the inventory which I earlier mailed you.

Rev. Swanson will be in Petersburg about April 4th and stay there until the 18th or 20th. If there is anything I could do in representing the Board, I might be able to go over to Petersburg. Herewith is a copy of the inventory Rev. E.E.Bromley gave me. He made this up by checking his memory against the inventory of 1926.

If possible, the "A.L.Lindsley" should be put in condition by May 15th so that she could be used in connection with the Young People's Conference.

The Presbytery included the following in the recommendations which will be in the National Missions Committee report. They will be forwarded to you on the next steamer:

"In view of the fact that there is a growing need for the services of our mission boats, we feel that now is the time to adapt the Lindsley to meet a larger service.

"A new cold storage plant is being built in Lizyanskie Sts. There is a growing settlement at Elfin Cove, and the possibility of an Army Air Base at Gustavus, and there is the established cannery work and Davily Vacation Bible Schools that have been possible through the use of the Lindsley.

"Therefore we recommend that a diesel engine be installed and that four more berths be built in the space occupied by the old and larger engine. This will make possible longer trips and more passenger space for the meetings of Presbytery and Young Peoples' Conferences. An offer has been received of $400 for the old engine."

The men of Presbytery not only see a vision of increased use of the boat, "A.L.Lindsley," but they are apprenhensive of the use of gasoline. They hope for the elimination of the gasoline hazard. n They point out the fact that insurance rates are less on diesel egine boats. Furthermore under a blanket policy the two boats could be insured under a much more reasonable rate, about 3% as the canneries are insuring fishing boats equipped with the diesel engines.

Am dashing this off as there will be no more boats southbound for several days and the 15 minute whistle has sounded.

Sincerely,

Russell Anderson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
UNITED PROMOTIONS
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STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER.
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
March 30, 1939

Board of National Missions
C/o Miss Helen E. Wolf
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Miss Wolf:

This is to acknowledge receipt of the letter written by Miss Blanche Hopp under date of the 23rd. Am addressing all letters to you since receiving instructions from Dr. Morse.

Yes, it is hard for all of us to realize that our dear friend, one who seemed to understand and comprehend so well, is not continuing his work at headquarters in New York. There is more of a challenge than ever to do our best in every service.

Miss Hopp requested information as to the change in my salary: The First Presbyterian Church of Wrangell will pay $20 per month toward my salary, beginning April 1st. My next salary voucher, which will be for the month of April, will be made out for $111.25. This is but $1.25 per month change.

We regret that the Wrangell Church does not see the way clear to make a large increase in local support. Just now our people are quite desperate over lack of employment. The canneries packed very little fish last year, have not paid their taxes to the town, and there is doubt as to the operation this season.

I am thankful to be receiving a salary of $131.25 per month, or a total of $1575.00 per year. At that we are kept busy from time to time figuring out how to meet our bills. Living costs are increasing in Alaska. Our five children are growing up, requiring more food and clothes. Another year, our oldest son will be ready for college, but we do not know how we are going to help him to go to the States for that higher education. The minimum salary of school teachers in this district is now $1,800.00. We are not anxious for our family is committed to God. There will be some kind of an opportunity.

Sincerely,
Russell F. Pederson
Russell F. Pederson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
UNITED PROMOTIONS
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REV DAVID WAGGONER,
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
March 31st 1939

Miss Helen E. Wolf
Board National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Miss Wolf:

In Dr. Somerndike's letter of March 13th he had a paragraph concerning the Princeton and Rev. Verne J. Swanson.

I received that letter on my return from Presbytery and read it to Mr. Swogger and Mr. Christiansen. They seemed to concur with Dr. Somerndike's suggestion.

Mr. Christiansen saw Mr. Falconer, and wrote me: "I had a talk with Philip Falconer this morning. He is very much interested in the job on the Princeton, and will take it if the matter can be closed real soon. He is working at Craig now, and will notify his boss there as soon as he hears from you. He is interested in the Princeton because of the Christian witness he will have while working. This job he has is good until next Fall, so he won't quit or notify his boss until he hears from you. .... Will Dr. Somerndike's leaving us have any effect on the immediate plans of the Princeton? Falconer will be very glad to know that, also."

Mr. Swogger who is a member of the N. M. Committee gave me to understand that he agreed to employing Falconer right off.

In the National Missions Committee report, you will note certain recommendations which were approved by Presbytery. This lot of recommendations was made in the light of a former statement that the Princeton would have to be operated by a minister on salary like Mr. Swanson and a helper receiving but $60 a month.

I wrote Rev. E. E. Bromley and Rev. J. L. Webster who are the other ministers who are members of the N. M. Committee, and gave them the information in Dr. Somerndike's letter. The following telegrams were received from they today: "Let Committee recommendations stand awaiting further information letter follows, E. E. Bromley"; "Price and I feel that any action regarding Falconer would be premature until new Board administrator gives us assurance of increased Princeton budget prefer plans adopted at Presbytery approve Falconer as operator when two full salaries are guaranteed we feel swanson should not resign but be transferred to church pastorate, J. L. Webster."

Please let me know as early as possible whether two full salaries will be allowed in connection with the Princeton, that is $1500 for Falconer and $1500 for the boat missionary the Board will be employing to serve on the Princeton. I am for employing Falconer.

I am working with the Insurance Adjustor and expect bids will be in soon and work started next week on restoration of the "A.L.Lindsley."

Sincerely,

Russell F. Pederson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
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KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

PRESBYTERY
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CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
MR. W. LESLIE YAW, CH.
SITKA, ALASKA
PENSIONS
REV. DAVID WAGGONER, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA
STATED CLERK
REV DAVID WAGGONER.
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
April 4th 1939

Miss Blanche Hopp
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Miss Hopp:

In answer to your letter of March 29th and request for reply by wire; I sent the following telegram:

PRESBYTERY PLEASED THORNES VISIT PERIOD YOUNG PEOPLES CONFERENCE SITKA MAY THIRTIETH TO JUNE FOURTH PRINCETON SCHEDULED BUSY ALMOST EVERY HOUR CLOSING DAY SHELDON JACKSON TO OPENING OF CONFERENCE TRANSPORTING STUDENTS HOME AND DELEGATES TO CONFERENCE PERIOD RECOMMEND THORNE PARTY BE GRANTED USE PRINCETON BEGINNING JUNE NINTH REFER MARCH THIRTY FIRST LETTER

Mr. Yaw of the Sheldon Jackson School told us that he had had a letter from Dr. Thorne about the two month visit. We were anticipating your letter, and we do hope that he has favorable weather for picture taking and travelling between towns.

The month of April is the time when the fishing season arrangements are made. Mr. Falconer accepted employment with a fish buyer. He can get off his job, but would not wish to do so for a period of even two months employment. If we are to secure Mr. Falconer at all, he must be assured of a worth while season. The $1500 a year is not a large salary for competent boatmen. In fact it is very difficult to find anyone at all interested under $150 per month and keep. Mr. Falconer is willing to take the position because of the Christian witness. His father, Rev. F. R. Falconer, was a faithful pioneer missionary.

You have noted the recommendation #23 of Mar 22nd. Our recommendation of Rev. E.E.Bromley and Eugene Bromley to operate the Princeton during the six weeks period following May 15th was borne out of the statement that the Princeton be tied up while Mr. Swanson was away. The Christian Education Committee was thinking of arranging for a skilled engineer and a pilot to accompany the Bromleys during the student and delegate trips. The responsibility for the boat and passengers is so great that we are apprehensive.

The Board must secure a competent operator of the Princeton if she is to be operated. The sensible plan seems to be that of securing a good boatman, navigator and engineer, at $1500 salary; and then for the Board to appoint an energetic, evangelistic, competent minister to serve on the Princeton; the boat then to be in active service practically the entire year. The Princeton should not be giving any one town or village more than a week at a time, and thus cover a number of places quite often.

If you can secure the additional funds, I am certain that the N. M. Committee will approve Rev. and Mrs. Swanson taking up the work at Hydaburg. Hydaburg is a Hyda Indian village where our

church has the only active work. Think of a field where there is no competition from other denominations. Rev. S. G. Davis who served Hydaburg has been retired. He gave some ministry last winter, but it was not adequate; and he does not wish to continue. We understand that the community of Hydaburg has recently secured $145,000 as a government loan with which to rebuild the salmon cannery, and they have a fine business man to superintend. I do not know what amount the village of Hydaburg would pledge toward self support, perhaps $10 a month. I would not want to go to Hydaburg to make inquiry unless we were certain that the arrangement would materialize. The Craig people are terribly disappointed that Swansons were not placed with them.

Craig and Klawock are so near together that they should be served by one missionary. It would be very difficult to place Swansons on that field at this time because of the feeling which existed between Swansons and Kaipers.

I suppose that Swansons will be calling on you at 156 Fifth Avenue following his attendance at General Assembly. Mr. Swanson was here Monday afternoon, and he asked me whether the Board has expressed any interest in purchasing his house to be used as a Manse at Petersburg. I told him that I had heard nothing since writing the Board in February. When we know what the budget is likely to be, the N. M. Committee should meet and go over arrangements to propose as to Hydaburg and Petersburg as well as some other places.

Enclosed you will find a copy of my last letter to Dr. L. H. Tribus, this is relative to the "A. L. Lindsley."

A few days ago I wrote to Dr. L. H. Tribus inquiring as to whether there is any liability insurance carried by the Board for protection in case of a wreck or accident with passengers such as Sheldon Jackson School students or delegates to conference, or the like. The insurance adjustor told me that the company he writes insurance for would not accept the Princeton with the auxiliary gas engine installed below decks. I wrote Dr. Somerndike that some time ago, but he said the Board's insurance company did not object. Just the same, if there should be a loss in connection with the Princeton, the liability would be heavier. The Board was fortunate that there was no one on board the Lindsley when she blew up and took fire instantly. We are apprehensive because our attention is called to accidents happening to other boats. Last summer a crew and cannery superintendent were lost when the boat blew up and took fire.

Please recognize that my interest is in propagating the Presbyterian Church missions and at the same time protecting the National Missions Board property.

Sincerely,

Russell T. Hodgson

Box 275
Wrangell
April 5th, 1939

Dr. [illegible]. Tribus
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Dr. Tribus:

April 2nd I sent you an airmail, and then at the suggestion of the Adjustor who is a member of our Wrangell Church sent you the following telegram:

TO ARRIVE CONCLUSION BEST ACTION TO TAKE RECONDITIONING SS T LINDSLAY IT IS NECESSARY TO KNOW INSURABLE VALUE AS WELL AS AMOUNT VESSEL WAS INSURED FOR BECAUSE IT APPEARS BOARD MAY BE COINSURER WITH INSURANCE COMPANY ON THIS VESSEL PERIOD NEXT POLICY FORM IS USED QUESTION PLEASE WIRE ABOVE INFORMATION

I received no answer to that message. The Adjustor and I were waiting for bids in connection with the Lindsley. Seeing no message came from you, the Adjustor sent his wire of information at the same time that I sent you the following:

ANDERSON MARINE WAYS SUBMITTED BILL SALVAGE TOWAGE LINDSLEY SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTEEN DOLLARS PERIOD BESIDES TOTAL BIDS RANGING COVERING RESTORATION INCLUDING ELECTRICAL AND OTHER EQUIPMENT THIRTY NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS PERIOD OTHER RESTORATION COSTS NOT DUE EXPLOSION FIRE ESTIMATED THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS PERIOD FORMER FIGURE WAS ONLY ESTIMATE BEFORE BOAT WAS THOROUGHLY INSPECTED PERIOD ADJUSTOR ADMITS BOAT A COMPLETE STRUCTURAL LOSS ENGINE AND OTHER SALVAGE WOULD ABOUT SUFFICE PAY ALL LIENS BILL PERIOD IF YOU CAN COLLECT ABOUT FOUR THOUSAND WOULD SO ADVISE WITH HOPE OF COMPLETE NEW BOAT BETTER ADAPTED PRESENT WORK PERIOD L T AND ANDERSON HAVE LINDSLEY FOR HIS BILL AWAITING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS

Mr. Anderson's towage-salvage bill seems to me very much out of reason, but it appears there is nothing we can do about it since the Insurance company through Adjustor Davis let him take the boat with no definite understanding. Captain Verne J. Swanson read the bill and we agreed to do all we can in the future to keep Presbyterian Mission boats away from the Anderson Marine Ways of Petersburg.

As the agent of the Board of National Missions, I would like to know the Insurance Policy covering the M/s Princeton. It would be helpful to know a little bit about the insurance covering other properties. I regret that you did not see fit to inform me on the policy carried on the Lindsley. That information would have been very helpful when the Adjustor was working with me endeavoring to do everything possible which is fair and square to offer the most favorable adjustment.

The Adjustor and I spent from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. last Saturday going to Petersburg to inspect and obtain bids on the Lindsley. My expense was but $2.75, due to the Adjustor taking me on his boat.

Sincerely,

Apr.
6th
1939

Rev. Russell F. Pederson,
Box 275,
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Mr. Pederson:

Miss Wolf has referred to me your letters of recent date, and I in turn have conferred with Dr. Morse regarding them.

With reference to the employment of Mr. Falconer as operator of the Princeton, Dr. Morse advises me that in view of the stringency of finances and until a successor to Dr. Somerndike is appointed, it would be better to defer any decision with reference to the new policy which Dr. Somerndike had in mind for the operation of the Princeton. He suggests that since Mr. Swanson is to attend the General Assembly, we employ Eugene Bromley at $30 a week for the six weeks following Mr. Swanson's departure; and then have Mr. Swanson continue as the boat missionary until the budget and the new administrative arrangements are determined.

The same policy would apply in the case of Mr. Kaiper, allowing him to continue as at present. The whole question of the future can be worked out by whoever is to have charge of the Alaska work.

Regarding the renovation of the "A.L. Lindsley", this is a matter upon which the Board must act. In view of the recommendation of Presbytery with reference to an enlarged program, it would seem to be wise to hold up all repairs to the boat along with the question of the program until after the Board meeting.

The matter of the transfer of the Saxman church property to the village of Saxman will also require Board action.

With reference to the request of the Hoonah Indian School for lot one of the mission grounds as a site for the proposed school boat building and machine shop, I am obliged to say that so far as I know this is the first information we have had in this direction. This request would first of all have to come from the Department of the Interior. When it is made by them it can be presented to the Board for consideration.

Checks have been sent covering the bills for your oil-burning stove and the shingles for the Klawock manse. The latter bill was held up for the approval of the Board which was given on March 15th.

I am returning herewith your check for $25 covering Hydaburg manse rent of $5.00 per month from October to February. Inasmuch as accepting this check would require us to send one for a like amount to Mr. Davis, I think it would simplify matters to allow him to keep this rental each month. I am

not permitted to docket any amount out of the Alaska budget for a retired missionary, and I am afraid it would complicate matters somewhat to clear this item through the Board. Of course where a missionary is receiving a regular salary from the Board in addition to manse, the rental represents a refund on the Board's appropriation.

We shall be glad to hold the unexpended balance of $1733 in the appropriation for Angoon manse (I believe this was for the purchase of a property) for use in the budget year 1939-40. In addition we have on hand the following balances for repairs:-

Hoonah - church (social center) -	$100.00
Klukwan - manse - stove -	20.00
Chapel-by-the-Lake - (S.S. room)-	52.62
Kake - church basement -	400.00

Will you kindly let me know whether these balances will be called for?

The additional repair grants which the Presbytery recommended will be presented to the Board for consideration in connection with the new budget.

We shall include in the budget askings for Alaska Presbytery a request for a scholarship grant for Gibson Young. I cannot say just now whether this additional money will be available, although the Board is very favorable toward the idea of a trained native leadership. I shall be able to write you more definitely regarding this matter after the meeting of the Budget Committee. This also applies to the grant of $250 recommended for the Juneau native church, and the grants for Klukwan and Hydaburg.

****

I have referred to Mr. Thorne your wire regarding his use of the Princeton this summer. I believe he now finds that the 16th of June will suit him better than the 9th for starting out on his tour of Alaska Presbytery. I have advised him to write directly to you regarding the matter.

With best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

UNIT OF ALASKA WORK.

BH

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
UNITED PROMOTIONS
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BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
April 17th 1939

Miss Blanche Hopp
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Miss Hopp: MONTHLY NARRATIVE

As I begin this letter, I am thankful that you are in the office carrying on the Executive work of our real friend, Dr. Somerndike, whom God has blessed in taking him home. Yes, I can visualize you there in the office with prayer in your heart that you may do just the right thing in all your work.

When Dr. Somerndike's successor takes office, he may be assured that on the fields the missionaries are with you folks in prayer. We desire to cooperate with you in every way. I have been hoping that the new Executive may be able to come to Alaska this summer. We have so many opportunities as well as vital problems to consider. It seems like personal contacts only will do. The Presbytery has continued to allow me the responsibility of serving as N. M. Chairman, and my prayer is that God may guide me in making representations to you.

The past month opened with a fine meeting of Presbytery. Most of the members of Presbytery were in the right spirit for harmony to prevail. We felt that we were guided every day, and we were blessed with good weather for the trip both going and coming.

Since the return from Presbytery, the time has flown rapidly. The first Sunday home was difficult for I could not get away from the thought of losing our A#1 Secretary. We know that God will raise up another, yet old friendships are difficult to break. We had a wonderful pre-Easter season. The messages from Monday morning by Dr. Robinson were most helpful.

Easter Sunday we rejoiced in the record breaking attendance at the Sunrise and 10:30 morning services. We had a 9:30 worship at Wrangell Institute in which all the students and many of the faculty were present. Their music was excellent. Our choirs in town were at their best. Our people were united in a spiritual response to our Risen Lord and Savior.

We rejoice to report that twelve of our Home Department members, young married women, have at last responded to a closer touch with the church. Several living out of town have united with those nearer at hand for what we will call a Friendly Bible Class. Each two weeks those with cars will gather up their neighbors and come in for an evening of Bible study and social fellowship. Many of these people are new to the community and we feel that progress is being made in their life. These young women are bringing their husbands for the next class. Mrs. Pederson and I feel that God has blessed us in allowing us to see these young mothers and fathers move forward in Christian study and fellowship.

Sincerely,

Russell F Pederson

Copy to Miss Hopp

Box 275
Wrangell
April 17th 1939

Dr. L. H. Tribus
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue

Dear Dr. Tribus:

Thank you for your letter of the 11th. On receiving your message through the letter of Miss Hopp, of April 6th, I wired:

REFERRING MISS HOPPS LETTER APRIL SIXTH JUST RECEIVED SUGGESTING H HOLDING UP ACTION ON LINDSLEY UNTIL AFTER BOARD MEETING LET ME CALL ATTENTION THAT BILL OF THREE DOLLARS SEVENTY CENTS PER DAY IS ACCUMULATING AS LINDSLEY REMAINS ON ANDERSON MARINE WAYS PETERSBURG WHERE BOAT WAS PLACED AT DIRECTION OF INSURANCE COMPANY

Rev. E.E.Bromley and his people raised the Lindsley and placed her on the beach. We could not tell the true condition of the wreck until she was put on the ways and cleaned out. Then it was evident that rebuilding would be at great expense. The explosion not only resulted in the loss of the pilot house and cabin by fire and other damages, but the structure in general was so shaken that the knees were weakened, the planking would all have to be gone over which would necessitate the removal of all the iron bark. Several ribs were cracked and more in bad condition. The plank butts would not hold caulking. Mr. Ralph Young, an experienced boatman of Sitka, told us that he would not be interested in the hull at any price because the expense in rebuilding are so much more than can be reasonably expected. We were informed that the Anderson boat builders would not make an offer for the hull. I talked with two boat builders in Wrangell and they advised that the Board would be wise to secure a settlement and build a new craft rather than attempt to rebuild . You know that the Lindsley has been in service 16 years. They tell me that the ribs have lost much of their life. It is not good business to rebuild the old and yet have a boat 16 years old, especially at the price estimated by the company in which the insurance company had confidence. As for myself, I would not have that company build or rebuild.

Adjustor Barnes admitted at once that the boat is a complete structural loss and so advised the Insurance Company. I am thankfull that Mr. Barnes was assigned to take over the adjustment rather than have Mr. Jim Davis continue. If Barnes had been given the assignment in the first place, the salvage bill would not have been run up as it was. I think that Davis and Anderson were having a good time.

My conviction is that the Board should get a settlement as soon as possible. If the Board keeps the wreck, then the engine can be sold and the other salvagable stuff put up for sale. Now is the time to make the sale of the engine before the fishing season starts. I think we should be able to get a little more than $100 for the equipment other than the engine and under water equipment. It could be placed on the Princeton for the operator to sell when he had an opportunity.

In case the Board sees fit to carry out the enlarged program suggested by Presbytery, the boat to replace the Lindsley should be about 8 or 10 feet longer than the Lindsley or about 50 ft. This would provide a better sea boat, be more economical with the installation of a diesel engine, provide more space for passengers during conference, Presbytery, and other seasons when delegates can well be assembled for spiritual strengthening.

The M/s Princeton has been needing considerable repair for two years. She has several deck leaks which will bring destruction to the general structure. In a communication forwarded to the Board some time ago the advice was given that the deck be carried right through instead of having the pilot house dropped in about 16 inches. Then the pilot house would be erected on the decking which would eliminate the chance for leaks. Furthermore the cabin should be extended to make space for one large or two small rooms above deck. If the Board should not see the way clear to ~~mak~~ build a new boat to replace the Lindsley, I believe that some of the insurance money collected should be put into the Princeton this summer.

Regarding the Princeton Capacity. The boat has fourteen bunks. The customs had the Princeton registered as being allowed to carry 22 on account of the possibility of two sleeping on some of the bunks or berths. That registry was cancelled. Two weeks ago the Princeton took the Klawock choir of 40 from Klawock to Hydaburg and Craig for special services. Enroute to and from the meeting of Presbytery we had a large crowd aboard, I do not know just how many, but we had to take turns sleeping, and several slept on the floor. In connection with the student trips to and from the Sheldon Jackson School there are usually more than 30 on board. The Young People's Conference trips carry capacity loads, at least once there were more than 50. Pay is received. The passengers are not paying the high fare as required on the steamers, but money is passed. Meals are served. It seems to me that the Board is faced with a liability even though folks are just riding as friends and guests. Anyone who rides on the Princeton is a very definite responsibility whether or not he pays a sum of money for passage. Even while the boat is at the dock, someone may slip off the ladder. I think that the liability should be recognized; and I would like to know what to do in case there is an accident to one or more.

The Princeton travels about sixteen to seventeen thousand nautical miles per year all within the waters of southeastern Alaska. On special occasion she has made trips to Seattle. She is equipped with a radio telephone.

The Princeton is doing a very necessary work in handling the passengers which are in mission service, travelling to school at Sitka, going to conferences and Presbytery, etc. We would find it difficult to get along without such a good boat. Another boat somewhat longer than the Lindsley would be a wonderful help in the mission service of Alaska Presbytery.

We should properly mann the Princeton, and then if possible secure and operate a second mission boat. At the same time we must realize that the fields need service of settled pastors.

Sincerely,

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

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BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell

April 21st 1939

Miss Blanche Hopp
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Miss Hopp:

Because the mail service is so much delayed these days and we believed the two matters should be in your hands immediately, the following night letter was sent you last night:

PLEASE ENDEAVOR SECURE APPROVAL DOCTOR SOMERNDIKES MARCH THIRTEENTH PLAN LAYMAN OPERATOR AND ORDAINED MINISTER ON PRINCETON PERIOD SWOGGER CHRISTIANSEN EMPHATICALLY PROTEST NONEMPLOYMENT OF FALCONER PERIOD COMMITTEE BELIEVES FALCONER BEST QUALIFIED LAYMAN PERIOD FEARFUL OF HAZARDS BOAT AND LIABILITIES FOR PASSENGERS UNLESS QUALIFIED XXXXXXXX OPERATOR IN CHARGE CHRISTIANSEN AND WIFE DECLINE CONFERENCE TRIP AND RESPONSIBILITIES IF BROMLEY IS IN COMMAND PERIOD WE REQUEST EMPLOYMENT OF FALCONER FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING MAY FIRST OR FIFTEENTH AND CONTINUE EUGENE BROMLEY AS HELPER UNTIL BOAT MISSIONARY IS APPOINTED PERIOD

ANDERSON MARINE WAYS WIRED REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON LINDSLEY SWANSON AGAIN ADVISES CASH SETTLEMENT NOT RESTORATION

Rev. A. D. Swogger and Rev. D. G. Christiansen each sent me wires protesting the nonemployment of Falconer. It seemed to me that the only thing left to do was to wire the other Committee members.

Mr. Bromley wired me, "Do what you think best about Princeton," and Mr. Webster again gave his approval of Falconer.

The M/s Princeton is such an important part of the missionary program that the proper manning of the boat is essential. The Board and the Presbytery have been very fortunate that no accidents have brought loss of life in the past. Surprise has been registered that the boat has been run by one man and a helper when as many as forty to fifty have been carried. You know that the student and conference trips come the middle of May into June. Again in the fall the boat will have heavy passenger lists. Presbytery approved an evangelistic program for the coming year which will include missionaries giving a helping hand to other fields and church choirs being transported on the Princeton.

Rev. Verne J. Swanson wishes to serve a field rather than continue on the Princeton. Some of the Committee members believe that a new boat missionary will be for the best interests of the boat work. It was not discussed at Presbytery because we understood that Dr. Somerndike's plan would go into effect as soon as the budget allowed. Recommendations will be made that Mr. Swanson be given a field in the Presbytery. We believe that he could serve acceptably at Hydaburg, but have not asked the congregation for their approval. Swansons have indicated that they would like to serve that field which does not have a ministry of much consequence at present. The community is growing, and ours is the only church in the field.

The Anderson Marine Ways of Petersburg wired me as to the disposition of the boat "A.L.Lindsley." Then the Insurance Adjustor told me that Anderson wanted to know, for the boat is occupying a Marine ways which is needed. Mr. Swanson wrote me that "Carl Anderson mentioned that the Lindsley is piling up lay-charges--suppose about $5.00 a day."

I do hope that before this letter reaches you that you will have wired me instructions. You understand that the condition of the hull of the boat demands that she be above the high tide or else the engine will be damaged. The engine weighs about two tons, or to be more exact 3600 pounds.

If the Board accepts our recommendation and accepts a cash settlement, we suppose that you will authorize us to sell the hull and engine for whatever we can realize for the Board. I have been telling people that I expected that it would be sold. Have done this with the hope of getting some bids on different things. A Wrangell man is interested in the hull for use at his fox farm. A fisherman who will wish to know right away before the season starts has asked about the engine. People who know engines and the market tell me that we'll be fortunate to realize $400 out of the engine and under water equipment. Wrangell is a good place to sell anything which has to do with boats.

Should the Board decide to carry out an enlarged program for the boat service, the program which will necessitate the use of the second boat; the practical plan is the building of a longer boat equipped with a diesel engine andmore accommodations.

Mr. Swanson wrote that he would be in favor of using part of the insurance money from the Lindsley for changing the deck of the Princeton and making house alterations thereon.

Mr. Swanson also wrote, "Don't think more than $350.00 should be paid on that tow-salvage bill" of Anderson Marine Ways on the Lindsley. The Insurance Adjustor told me that he thought the Board would get no where in declining to pay the total bill. Furthermore the reputation of the Board would be damaged. I believe that the bill is unreasonable, but Anderson has the whole advantage in that he took charge of the Lindsley at the instruction of the Insurance Company representative. No agreement was made as to the charges. We can be thankful that restoration went no farther without definite agreement.

Rec. 5/7/39 through Seward

Rev. Daniel Kaiper has not sent me his report and salary voucher for April. I wonder whether he sent it direct to the Board. His salary should not be increased above $40 from the Board without approval of the N. M. Committee and the Committee has not so recommended. I have heard no more from Mr. Kaiper.

We appreciate that you are having much work added to your position, and we are thankful that you are at headquarters so that you may help carry out the best course at headquarters.

Sincerely, Russell F. Anderson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
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WRANGELL, ALASKA

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REV DAVID WAGGONER.
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Box 275
Wrangell
April 24th 1939

Miss Blanche Hopp
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Miss Hopp:

This morning I was disappointed by hearing nothing from you or anyone else at 156 Fifth Ave. The C. P. R. boat brought six days mail.

I was hoping that there would be some word on the subject of the employment of Mr. Philip Falconer and on the disposition of the boat, "A. L. Lindsley."

Rev. D. G. Christiansen forwarded to me a letter which he received from Mr. George F. Fisher, Andover Newton Theological School, Newton Centre, Mass.

Mr. Fisher informed Mr. Christiansen that Dr. Somerndike had accepted his application for work with the Board of National Missions for this summer--a period of 12 weeks, and that Dr. Somerndike had said Mr. Fisher could help Mr. Christiansen.

This communication is the first news to reach the Presbytery of Alaska that students would be serving in the Presbytery this summer. We regret that that information did not reach us earlier. Evidently Dr. Somerndike overlooked writing to us on that subject.

I would like to know more about the arrangement. Mr. Fisher seems to think that everything has been arranged for him to serve in connection with Mr. Christiansen.

The members of the Presbytery believe that we should know quite thoroughly vital information concerning any candidate to come as a minister or as a student for the ministry. We feel that a student as well as a minister is recognized as a missionary. We are interested in the spiritual experience, the moral stands taken on the question of alcohol, tobacco, lottery, the dance. Mr. Fisher said in his letter, "Like to preach when there's something pertinent to be said."

We feel that there's something pertinent to be said at every opportunity to preach the Gospel of Salvation and Christian nurture.

Alaska Presbytery needs some real Presbyterians who have had a spiritual experience in conversion, have a background of Presbyterian College and Theological training, and are ready to promote the Christian faith in the light of historic Presbyterian faith.

Sincerely,

Russell F Pederson

NATIONAL MISSIONS
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Box 275
Wrangell
April 24th 1939

Miss Blanche Hopp
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Ave., New York

Dear Miss Hopp:

This evening I was again disappointed in finding no letter from the Board. There will be no boat for some time. The morning steamer brought six days mail. Our next steamer will likely be along in a week.

The boat, "A.L.Lindsley," would never have been allowed to occupy valuable space on a marine ways for so long a time if Dr. Tribus or you had notified us that no decision would be made for a month. The bill is adding up at $3.70 a day. Of course it is difficult to locate the hull with the heavy engine in a safe place, one where the engine will not be molested and be kept dry. We know that the $3.70 a day will be out of the money of the Board, and it hurts. Particularly do we feel it, when we think of how some of the projects and salaries are checked to make the budget balance. The boat shop has been anxious as I have wired you, for the space is actually worth more than they charge, especially at this time of the year.

Mr. Christiansen, Mr. Swogger and I have been chagrined that we have heard nothing from our urgent telegram recommending that Mr. Philip Falconer be employed as the operator of the Princeton for the coming year. As I included in that message, the N. M. Committee is making that recommendation.

Mr. Falconer is considered an exceptionally good operator, and we felt that the opportunity to employ him should not be lost.

He had a good position from which he resigned on the expectation that Dr. Somerndike's plan indicated in the letter of March 13th would be effective. We thought he would be on board the Princeton ten days or two weeks before Mr. Swanson left. You know that operating a diesel motor boat which navigates the waters of the Pacific Ocean with a large number of passengers on board is no small commission. You cannot find boatmen of character and capable as navigators who will work for the comparatively small sum of $1,500 a year. Usually those men draw over $2,000 and are allowed their "keep" in addition. Only a man with Christian love and motive will make the sacrifice.

If you have not wired me before you receive this letter, please let me know at once when the Board will meet and when they likely will make a decision as to the Princeton operator and the disposition of the Lindsley. You should have this letter by the 28th since it is going south on a fast steamer tonight and then on by airmail. Will appreciate knowing the name of Dr. Somerndike's successor.

Please do not consider that we are impatient. We are very anxious to serve the Presbytery and are doing our utmost here on the field.

Sincerely,

Russell F Pederson